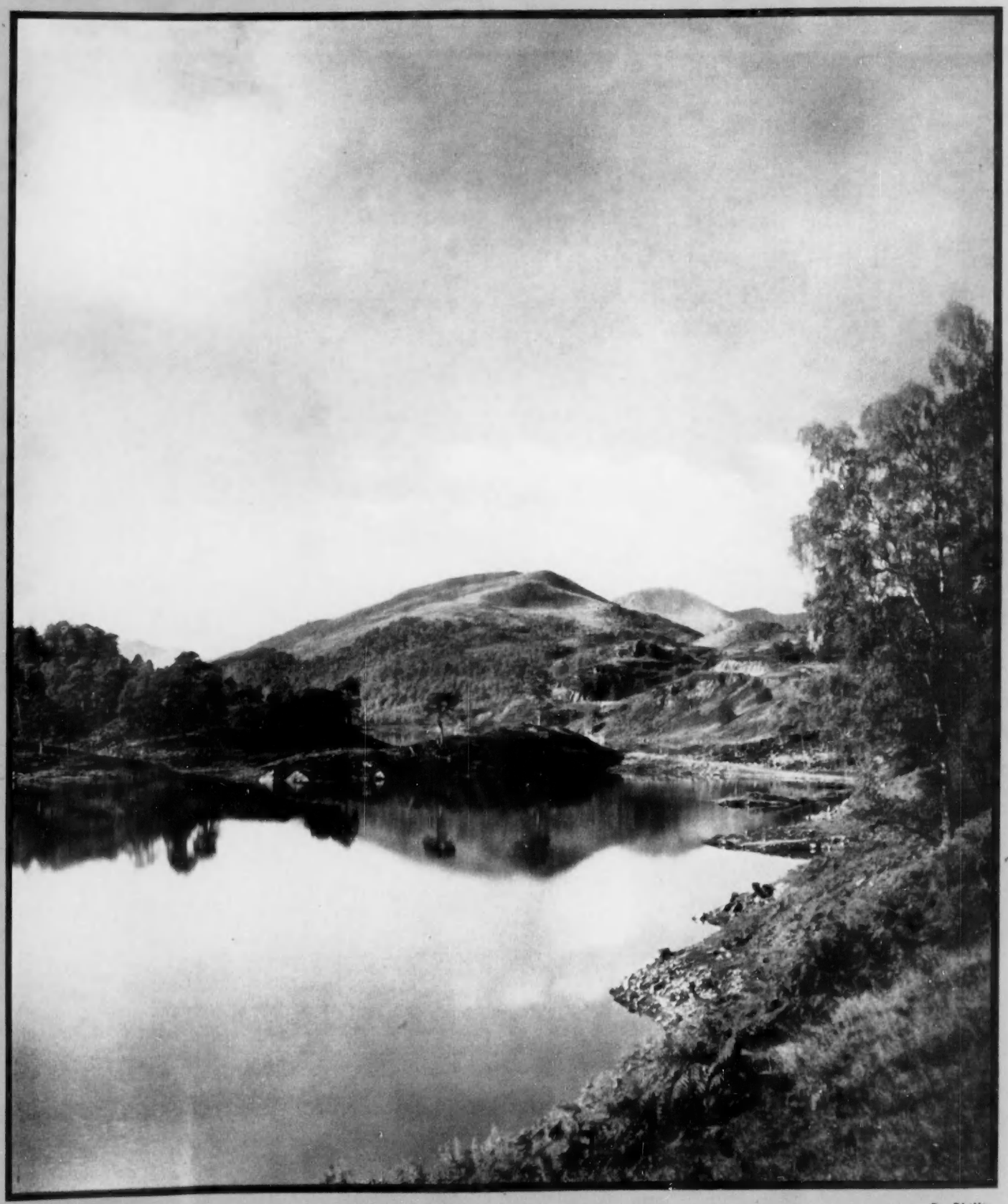
CATS, SHELLS AND SKULLS By GEOFFREY GRIGSON

COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Thursday
OCTOBER 25, 1956

TWO SHILLINGS



AUTUMN STILLNESS, GLEN AFFRIC, INVERNESS-SHIRE

D. Phillips

By Appointment to H.M. The Queen
FURRIERS

CALMAN LINKS (Trading) LTD.

33 Margaret Street · Cavendish Square · London, W.1.

* Trademarks Mutation Mink Breeders Association

Jewels—CARTIER Virginia Thoren

AUTUMN HAZE brand, Emba* natural brown mutation mink

Tailored for beauty . . . pert little jacket in the supple softness of the world's finest natural brown mutation mink

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXX No. 3119 OCTOBER 25, 1956

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

By Order of the Executor.

HERTFORDSHIRE. LONDON 25 MILES

GEORGIAN HOUSE, 6 COTTAGES AND 130 ACRES IN HAND

THE DELIGHTFUL HOUSE (1750), which is built of brick, stands in a well-timbered park about 350 feet up on gravel soil facing south with glorious views.

The approach is by a lime avenue with lodge at entrance. Fine suite of reception rooms, 10-12 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen with Aga.

Main electric light, power and water. Central heating.

Garage for 5-6. Stabling for 4.

Farm buildings and piggeries.

LODGE AND 5 COTTAGES

Grounds include lawns, yew hedges, 2 walled kitchen gardens. The remainder comprises parkland, pasture and woodlands.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH 130 ACRES

Agents: Messrs. KING & CO., 71, Bishopsgate, E.C.2, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (35908 R.P.L.)

Executors Sale at Low Price

JUNIPER PLACE, LOWER KINGSWOOD, SURREY

700 feet up with magnificent panoramic views.

A MEDIUM-SIZED HOUSE

Hall, drawing room (42 ft. long), study, dining room, 7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

Oil-fired central heating. Company's water, electric light and gas.

Well wooded garden and grounds with lovely south terrace and Garden House and kitchen garden. Entrance lodge with 3 bedrooms (just modernised).

Garage block with cottage over.

IN ALL 24¼ ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

15 MILES WEST OF LONDON

GEORGIAN HOUSE ADJOINING A VILLAGE

THE BEAUTIFUL PERIOD HOUSE (CIRCA 1870) IS IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER, HAS FINE BOW WINDOWS, AND THE WELL ARRANGED ACCOMMODATION IS ALL ON TWO FLOORS

It occupies a quiet position facing south and east with pleasant views over its own park, and has had large sums expended upon it on improvements.

Square hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 main and 4 staff bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. Gas-fired central heating, and hot water systems. Main electricity, gas, water and drainage. Stabling and garage.

THE GARDENS ARE BEAUTIFULLY KEPT and include some fine trees, lawns, walled kitchen garden, timbered walks, farm buildings.

THE SECONDARY HOUSE contains 5 rooms and a modern bathroom.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 20 ACRES

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (35979 R.P.L.)

BETWEEN HENLEY AND OXFORD

In beautiful country 1 mile from village.

A COMPACT RESIDENTIAL AND FARMING PROPERTY WITH A CHARMING REGENCY HOUSE

It has been enlarged and modernised and is extremely well equipped.

Lounge and 4 reception rooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. Complete central heating.

Main water and electricity.

Swimming pool.

Garages for 4.

FIRST-RATE RANGE OF FARM BUILDINGS, BAILIFF'S HOUSE, 2 COTTAGES

ABOUT 117 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (34909 R.P.L.)

INVERNESS-SHIRE

Kingussie 3 miles, Inverness 43 miles.

CHARMING SMALL RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE of about 2,000 ACRES

Substantial stone-built house on outskirts of village, suitable for occupation throughout the year.

3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, modernised offices.

Hydro-electric light. Gravitation water supply. Ample garage and outbuildings and well cared for gardens.

2,000-acre arable and hill farm with range of buildings (let at £200 p.a.) Salmon Fishing on River Spey. Brown trout fishing. Shooting in hand.

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION subject to the Farm tenancy.

Solicitors: Messrs. SHEPPERD & WEDDERBURN, W.S., 16, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, 2. Cen. 6572.

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (41,613 S.K.H.G.)

JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER STREET, LONDON, W.1 MAYFAIR 3316-7

Also at CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, YORK, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

SHROPSHIRE

Bishops Castle 4 miles, Craven Arms 8 miles, Ludlow 16 miles, Shrewsbury 22 miles.

THE NOTED AND HISTORIC WALCOT HALL ESTATE

including the Georgian Residence

WALCOT HALL

A perfectly appointed Country House of manageable size occupying a beautiful position in a small park overlooking the Lake.

4 SECONDARY HOUSES

The DAIRY FARM, 523 Acres.

LODGE FARM, 199 Acres.

LOWER GARDENS FARM, 121 Acres.

6 lodges and cottages, 3 lakes, accommodation lands, valuable woodlands with fine mature timber.

IN ALL ABOUT 1,460 ACRES

With Vacant Possession of 311 Acres the remainder producing

£1,455 PER ANNUM

To be offered for Sale by Auction as a whole or in 26 Lots at the Craven Arms Hotel, on MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1956, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously sold privately).

For full illustrated particulars and plan (price 2/6d. per copy), apply to the Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 25, Nicholas Street, Chester (Tel. 21522-3) or the Solicitors: PEARSONS & WARD, 1, New Street, York (Tel. 25661-2).

IN THE BEST PART OF THE HEYTHROP HUNT

THE GABLES, FIFIELD

Burford 5 miles, Stow-on-the-Wold 6 miles. Main line station 4 miles.

Extremely substantial stone and stone-tiled Residence.

Hall, 3 sitting rooms, cloaks, 6 principal bed. and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

MODERNISED OFFICES

EXCELLENT STABLING AND GARAGE

Main electricity and water. Central heating.

Unexpectedly available with 34 or 60 or 130 acres.

2 cottages also available if required.

Agents: JACKSON-STOPS (Cirencester). (Tel. 334/5).

CHARMING SMALL CHARACTER RESIDENCE

60 MILES NORTH OF LONDON. NORTHAMPTON 5 MILES

300 feet up with wide views approached by a private drive.

GOOD HALL

3 RECEPTION ROOMS

WELL-FITTED KITCHEN

4 BEDROOMS

DRESSING ROOM

BATHROOM

Main electric light and water.

GARAGES FOR 3 CARS

Shaded garden. Outside playroom. Greenhouse.

½ ACRE

The subject of large expenditure and in splendid order.

PRICE FREEHOLD £3,750

Many fittings included, Mortgage available.

Particulars from Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Bridge Street, Northampton. (Tel. 32990-1). Folio 10538

UNEXPECTEDLY IN THE MARKET

IN MUCH

FAVOURED VILLAGE OF BROADWAY, WORCS

Cheltenham 15 miles. Evesham 5 miles.

REALLY ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT AND TILED RESIDENCE

2 reception rooms, modern offices, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

PLEASANT GARDENS. MAIN SERVICES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD, with Vacant Possession.

IN FIRST-RATE ORDER THROUGHOUT

Apply: JACKSON-STOPS (Cirencester), Dollar Street House, Cirencester (Tel. 334-5).

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE DOWER HOUSE ESTATE, WESTWALL, BURFORD, OXON.

has been sold privately and, therefore,

THE AUCTION IS CANCELLED

NORTH BUCKS

AN OLD MANOR HOUSE IN CHARMING GROUNDS

380 feet above sea level with southerly aspect. Approached by a short drive lined with chestnut trees.

SPACIOUS HALL

DRAWING ROOM decorated in the Adams period. LOUNGE

DINING ROOM

COMPLETE DOMESTIC OFFICES with Aga cooker and Agamatic boiler.

6 BEDROOMS

MODERN BATHROOM

Main electric light and water.

Old-world garden with ample space for tennis court. Small T.T. and attested farmery with milking parlour.

Productive arable and rich grassland, in all about **31 ACRES**

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,000

Recommended by the Agents: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Northampton (Tel. 32990). Folio 11131

SOUTH DEVON

OVERLOOKING THE TEIGN ESTUARY

Within the confines of a picturesque village off the main road.

SMALL GEORGIAN HOUSE

Entrance hall, 3 reception rooms, kitchen with Esse, 5 principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

STAFF FLAT AND FLAT OVER GARAGE

Main services.

Lovely garden with vinery and greenhouses.

VACANT POSSESSION. £6,500 FREEHOLD

Apply Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 30, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel. 1066).

AN ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY ESTATE

In a sheltered position on the banks of the River Yore near Aysgarth Falls.

Leyburn 7 miles. Hawes 10 miles.

INCLUDING 1 MILE OF VALUABLE TROUT FISHING

Compact and medium-sized stone-built House with south aspect.

Lounge hall, 2-3 reception rooms, billiards room, cloakroom, good domestic offices, 4-6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms.

GARAGES (2) AND OTHER BUILDINGS

Summerhouse, plantation and small kitchen garden.

Mains electricity and water. Septic tank drainage.

Adjacent small grass farm (let) with separate farmhouse, etc., and productive pastures and meadows.

45 ACRES IN ALL

Further particulars from: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 23, High Petergate, York (Tel. 25033-4).

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

SURREY. HASLEMERE 3½ MILES

Adjoining the unspoilt village of Brook.
Witley station with its excellent service of trains 1 mile away.

CHARMING WELL EQUIPPED COUNTRY HOUSE HAVING MAGNIFICENT VIEWS TO THE SOUTH.

3 reception rooms, principal suite of bedroom, dressing room, bathroom, 4 other bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. Main electric light and water. Garage for 3 with staff flat. The garden is a feature of the property, is well stocked and yet easy to maintain.

IN ALL 1¼ ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

An additional cottage in Brook available if required.
Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (54,294 K.M.)

ON SUSSEX COAST

IN AN EXCELLENT RESIDENTIAL POSITION

With frontage to the seashore and access to beaches.

Admirably suitable for building development. Approximately twenty building plots, subject to planning permission.

ATTRACTIVE THATCHED COTTAGE-STYLE PROPERTY

6-7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge, dining room, study. Sun lounge. Outbuildings. Stabling. Double garage. Large boathouse. Approached from the road by way of a carriage drive approximately 150 yards in length.

The Grounds are arranged as Paddocks. Formal and kitchen gardens.

IN ALL ABOUT 4 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD
Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (31,351 P.J.W.)

4½ MILES SOUTH OF CAMBRIDGE

DELIGHTFUL HOUSE

Part dating from the 15th century.

Compact, skilfully modernised, and of great charm.

Lounge (19 ft. 8 ins. by 17 ft.), dining room, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen with "Aga."

Main electricity and water.

Modern drainage. Garage.

STUDIO OR PLAYROOM

Well maintained gardens with lawns, brook and rose garden.

ABOUT ½ ACRE. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.
Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (54277 K.M.)

SURREY—KENT BORDER. 500 feet up.

LONDON 25 MILES

Edge of unspoilt village within easy reach of excellent train services.

WELL-EQUIPPED

MODERN HOUSE

3 reception rooms, one 30 ft. by 25 ft., 6 bedrooms all with basins h. and c., 3 bathrooms, kitchen with Aga. Central heating. Gas, main electric light and water. Double garage.

A feature of the property is the well-stocked garden with greenhouse and kitchen garden

IN ALL 1¼ ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. Cottage available if required.
Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (54273 K.M.)

MAYfair 3771 (15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1
HEREFORD OFFICE: 22 HIGH TOWN (Tel. 5160)

Telegrams: "Galleries, Wesdo, London"

NICHOLAS

(ESTABLISHED 1882)

1, STATION ROAD, READING
READING 54055 (4 lines)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1
REGENT 1184 (3 lines)

WARWICKSHIRE

A VERY TEMPTING PURCHASE AT £8,250

Bringing in £740 per annum not counting portion occupied by Vendor.

A QUEEN ANNE HOUSE WITH 55 ACRES

NEAR STRATFORD-ON-AVON. This freehold property comprises a QUEEN ANNE HOUSE offered with vacant possession of 4 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc.

Remainder 3 self-contained flats bringing in £740 per annum.

CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN WATER AND ELECTRICITY

Apply Messrs. NICHOLAS (Reading Office).

BERKSHIRE

Within easy daily access of London and having long frontage to the Loddon, with island.

A GEORGIAN HOUSE

with exclusive Fishing Rights.

3 reception rooms, breakfast room, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Aga. Mains.

STABLING

BARN

7½ ACRES, including 2 paddocks.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Sole Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS (apply Reading Office).

WEST BERKSHIRE

On edge of lovely downland village, enjoying peace and quiet. Station for London 2 miles (express 75 min. service).

CHARMING 16th-CENTURY HOUSE

Panelled hall, cloakroom, study, sitting room, panelled dining room, kitchen with Rayburn and points for electric cooker, refrigerator, etc., 4 bedrooms, 2 with basins, 2 bathrooms, 2 separate w.c.s, studio or bedroom with basin. Informal garden of about 1 acre with large lawn, fruit and vegetable gardens. Good outhouses. Main electricity, water and drainage.

Paddock and stabling possibly available.

FREEHOLD £4,950

Existing mortgage might be transferred.

Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS (apply Reading Office).

WANTED TO PURCHASE

(IN MOST CASES NO HURRY FOR POSSESSION)

Messrs. Nicholas's recent enquiries include the following:

A. **HENLEY, HUNTERCOMBE, PEPPARD,** etc. 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, *hard tennis court liked.* **UP TO £7,500.** *Ref. Mr. C.*

B. **READING-OXFORD** (essential to be right in a village). A 2-FLOORED *HOUSE with 4-5 bedrooms. Regency liked.* **£5,000-£6,000.** *Ref. Lady E.*

C. **WEST BERKSHIRE.** A 4-5 BEDROOMED HOUSE of some merit. **ABOUT £6,000.** *Ref. Mrs. H. (Will view right away.)*

D. **BASINGSTOKE** (within 5 miles). A 6-BEDROOMED HOUSE with a cottage. **UP TO £10,000** if really suitable. Ref. Mrs. S.

E. **NEWBURY-OXFORD.** A 5-BEDROOMED HOUSE with 2 bathrooms. Stabling essential and up to **100 ACRES** considered. Ref. Mr. A.

Messrs. Nicholas will require the usual commission should a sale result—
otherwise no charge is made.

HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

HYDe Park 8222 (20 lines) Telegrams: "Selanlet, Piccy, London"

DELIGHTFUL POSITION WITHIN 15 MILES OF LONDON

SURREY

A choice and beautifully appointed

COUNTRY RESIDENCE IN SUPERB ORDER

Drive approach.

Imposing hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, staff accommodation and exceptional offices.

Oak floors, joinery, fitted basins. All main services.

Oil-burning central heating.

GARAGE 3 CARS
STABLING

LOVELY GARDENS AND GROUNDS **of about 6 ACRES**

FREEHOLD FOR SALE. Highly recommended.

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.20936)

A RARE OPPORTUNITY

NEAR BURNHAM BEECHES

Rural situation in the Green Belt, 23 miles Hyde Park Corner.

FASCINATING ELIZABETHAN RESIDENCE

Restored and in excellent order.

Lounge hall, cloakroom, 2-3 reception rooms, 3-4 bedrooms, modern kitchen and bathroom.

Central heating. Main services.

Range of outbuildings.

GARAGES FOR 3

Picturesque old-world garden, woodland, orchard and paddock.

GREENHOUSES

FREEHOLD £7,000 (Vendor having purchased another property)

Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents:
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.66915)

SUSSEX HILLS

High situation with extensive views. 4½ miles Wadhurst, 12 miles Tunbridge Wells.

COMPACT RESIDENCE IN EXCELLENT ORDER

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, good kitchen with Aga cooker.

Garage and outbuildings.

Main electric light and water.

Matured grounds easy of maintenance, with some grassland **2½ ACRES**

FREEHOLD £5,500 OR CLOSE OFFER

An excellent small Country House.

Recommended by Agents:
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.66088)

NEAR TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Completely secluded yet only 2 miles from Central Station.

CHARMING OLD FARMHOUSE WELL MODERNISED

3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms (4 with basins), dressing room, bathroom.

Central heating.

All main services.

GARAGE

Delightful gardens and orchards, affording complete seclusion, in all **2 ACRES**

FREEHOLD £5,250

Inspected and recommended by
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (K.66366)

SUSSEX

On outskirts of attractive village just over the hour from London.

DELIGHTFUL PERIOD HOUSE WITH FULLY FURNISHED AND EQUIPPED COTTAGE

13½ ACRES all in hand with good stabling.

A property of great charm in impeccable condition.

3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, very good offices.

Central heating throughout.

Main electricity, gas and water.

Garage for 2 cars, excellent stabling.

Beautiful garden partly terraced and well timbered. 3 paddocks.

Small fully modernised cottage.

Substantial Reduction at £10,500 to include complete furnishings, fixtures, fittings and equipment in the cottage.

Strongly recommended by
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.49774)

EXORS. SALE

30 MINUTES SOUTH OF LONDON

In favoured district with pretty views; 5 minutes station.

AN UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

Well planned and with *full central heating.*

2 reception rooms, loggia, kitchen.

4 bedrooms.

2 bathrooms.

All main services.

Garage.

Charming secluded gardens with lawns, flower beds, etc., in all about ½ **ACRE.**

FREEHOLD £7,250 OR OFFER

Recommended by Sole Agents:
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

NEAR GUILDFORD — LONDON 22 MILES

Nice position in a pretty village, near golf course. 1 minute Guildford—Epsom—Dorking buses.

Charming Village Residence.

Built under architect's supervision.

3 reception rooms, kitchen, 5 bedrooms, 1/2 bathrooms.

Main services.

GARAGE

Gardens of nearly 1 ACRE

Owner retiring.

Freehold for Sale.

Recommended by
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.66536)

BETWEEN HORSHAM AND CRANLEIGH

In rural unspoilt position on the Surrey/Sussex borders, within easy motor run of Guildford.

CHARMING PERIOD RESIDENCE

Of early Georgian origin with later additions.

Hall, large L-shaped lounge, dining room, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen with Aga cooker and Agamatic.

Main electricity and water.

Double garage. Fine range of brick and tile outbuildings.

2 ACRES of grounds including paddock.

FREEHOLD £6,000

Inspected and recommended by
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.66516)

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON AND STATION (TEL.: WIM. 0081 and 6464); AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD (Tel. 243), HERTS

HYDE PARK 4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1

WEST SUSSEX

In a quiet village at the foot of the Downs between Chichester and Arundel.

Charming Modernised Period House

Hall, 3 reception rooms, sun parlour, 3-4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity, gas and water.

2 garages, stabling.

Delightful partly walled and secluded garden.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,810)

NEAR SUSSEX COAST

Occupying a superb position, enjoying wonderful views and having direct access to a golf course.

A DISTINCTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 5-6 bedrooms, bathroom.

Part central heating, main electricity and water.

Double garage.

Charming matured garden of about **1 ACRE**

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (19,418)

HERTFORDSHIRE

In a favoured position within easy reach of London.

A UNIQUE NEWLY ERECTED MODERN SEMI-BUNGALOW BASED ON AMERICAN STYLE

Containing every modern amenity and device with lounge, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, boxroom. Garage and gardens.

All main services. Central heating.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21,095)

ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A VILLAGE CONVENIENT FOR TAUNTON

A Well Appointed Country House

Brick built with stone facings. South aspect.

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. Main services. **Cottage** and outbuildings. Formal gardens. **Meadowland,** etc., in all

ABOUT 5¼ ACRES

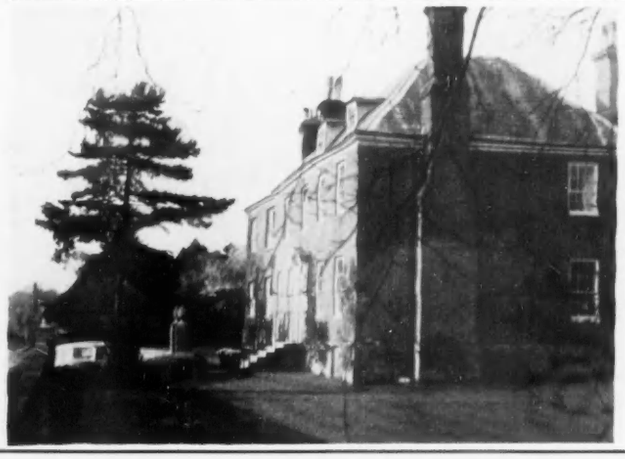
FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21,133)

3, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROsvenor 1032-33-34



By direction of Beverley Nichols, Esq.

MERRY HALL, ASHTEAD, SURREY

In a quiet position amidst delightful rural surroundings with views across open country yet within half a mile of Ashtead station with frequent train service to London.

THIS CHARMING SMALL

GEORGIAN MANOR HOUSE

WITH MANY DELIGHTFUL CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES INCLUDING,

FINE STAIRCASE, ORIGINAL MANTELS, ETC.

Lounge hall, 3 large reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and self-contained staff flat.

CENTRAL HEATING. ALL MAIN SERVICES

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS

THE EXQUISITE GARDENS ARE A GREAT FEATURE OF THIS LOVELY HOME YET EASILY MAINTAINED AND EXTEND IN ALL TO ABOUT 2 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE. PRICE £8,500

Further particulars and price upon application to RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

GROsvenor 2861

TRESIDDER & CO.

77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams: "Cornishmen (Audley), London"

11 MILES FROM OXFORD

3 miles main line station (just over 1 hour London).

A MOST CHARMING MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE WITH GLORIOUS VIEWS TO SOUTH. Hall, 3 reception, bathroom, 6 bedrooms. Central heating. Aga. Main e.l. and water. Garages. Stabling. Entrance lodge. Delightfully disposed gardens, kitchen and fruit garden, orchard and paddock.

REASONABLE PRICE FOR QUICK SALE

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (31,091)

WINDSOR FOREST

Between Ascot and Windsor, on bus route.

MOST ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE ADJOINING FARM LANDS. OPEN VIEWS TO SOUTH. 7 bed., 3 bath., 3 reception (1 double). Main electricity, gas and water. Central heating. Aga. Double garage. Stables. Cottage. Delightful grounds, inexpensive to keep up. Orchard, paddock and land.

12 ACRES. FREEHOLD

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (28,965)

EVERSLEY—HOME OF THE KINGSLEYS

6½ miles main line. Hour London.

A PARTICULARLY WELL-BUILT MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE in excellent condition. Hall, 3 reception, 2 bath., 6 bed. (2 h. and c.), dressing room. Main electricity, gas and water. Telephone. Garages, stable. Cottage. Pleasant gardens, prolific kitchen and fruit garden, orchards and paddock.

4½ ACRES. FREEHOLD (mortgage available)

Sole Agents: TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (5,410)

BERKS—8 MILES READING

In beautiful wooded country, 250 ft. above sea level.

CHARMING QUEEN ANNE HOUSE of historical interest with Adam decorations, panelled rooms, etc. Fine suite of well-proportioned reception rooms, 7 bedrooms (h. and c.), with bathrooms *en suite*, dressing room. Staff flat with bathroom. DOUBLE GARAGE. Full automatic central heating. Main electricity. SIMPLY DISPOSED GROUNDS.

8½ ACRES. MODERATE PRICE

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (29,458)

S.E. DEVON

2 miles from sea on rising ground. Picturesque views over the Axe Valley.

MODERN HOUSE OF DISTINCTION. 3 reception, 2 bath., 5-8 bed., excellent domestic offices. Garage and flat. Main electricity and water. Pleasure and kitchen gardens, glasshouse, paddock.

BOUNDED BY TROUT STREAM

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (25,023)

IN RURAL SUSSEX VILLAGE

Yet only 4 miles from Horsham (Hour London).

OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE. 4-5 bedrooms (2 h. and c.), bath., 2 reception, hall, cloakroom. Main water and electricity. Garage. **1½ ACRES** including orchard with small stream.

£6,000 FREEHOLD

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (31,138)

BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS

LONDON AND OXTED YORK NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE EDINBURGH

IN LOVELY WEALD OF KENT

In the Cranbrook, Hawkhurst, Tenterden area.

A DELIGHTFULLY CHARACTERISTIC OLD HOUSE DATING FROM THE 16th CENTURY.

The spacious and remarkably lofty rooms include dining hall, 2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

SPACIOUS DOMESTIC OFFICES

Old-world pleasure gardens, including hard tennis court.

NEARLY 3 ACRES

Only £5,950 Freehold

Also available additional 18 acres and very fine Modern Bungalow with 4 bedrooms and bathroom.

Details from West End Office.

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

Occupying a level position in this very delightful Devonshire resort.

A WELL-BUILT FAMILY RESIDENCE

convenient for the sea front, shops and transport.

3 reception rooms, cloakroom, domestic offices, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Garage and outbuildings. *Main services.* Pleasant small garden.

Lease 66 years. G.R. £6 p.a.

PRICE £3,950

Details from Oxted Office (Tel. 975), or West End Office.

West End Office: 129, Mount Street, Berkeley Square, Mayfair, W.1 (GROsvenor 2501). Head Office: 1, Buckingham Palace Road, Westminster, S.W.1 (VICtoria 3012). Branches at St. Helen's Square, York; 8, Central Arcade, Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne; 21a, Ainslie Place, Edinburgh and Oxted, Surrey.

GROsvenor 1553
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)
25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

13, Hobart Place,
Eaton Square,
5, West Halkin Street,
Belgrave Square,
London, S.W.1.

20 MILES SOUTH OF LONDON

Near Reigate and adjoining the Green Belt. Secluded position in completely rural surroundings.

A MOST ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE

of unusual character. Converted from old Surrey barn about 7 years ago, very easy to run and fully modernised.

4 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, galleried lounge hall, kitchen with Aga.

Main electricity, water and drainage.

Across a courtyard is a COTTAGE, built in keeping, with 3 bedrooms, bathroom, living room, etc., and main services connected.

Brick-built GARAGE.

STABLING with harness room.

Other useful outbuildings, picturesque grounds with matured orchard, 2 paddocks and small spinney.

PRICE £8,950 FREEHOLD WITH 7 ACRES

Strongly recommended from personal inspection by the Owner's Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. E.H.T. (D.1914)

EAST SUSSEX

12 miles north of Eastbourne, 4 miles from Hailsham and Heathfield.

A MODERNISED SUSSEX FARMHOUSE ON A RISE WITH WIDE VIEWS OVER UNSPOILT OPEN COUNTRY

4 BEDROOMS
2 BATHROOMS
3 RECEPTION ROOMS

Main services

GARAGE

BRICK OUTBUILDING

60 ft. by 18 ft. (bungalow, playroom, stable, poultry, etc.), paddock and orchard.

7 ACRES

£6,500 OR OFFER, FREEHOLD, WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Inspected and recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1.

C.B.A. (E.2249)

GUILDFORD

In a quiet situation on the edge of the town. Frequent trains to London in 40 minutes.

AN ATTRACTIVE AND WELL-FITTED MODERN RESIDENCE

4-6 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS

ALL MAIN SERVICES, GARAGE, MATURED AND WELL-STOCKED GARDEN OF ABOUT **¾ ACRE**

PRICE £6,750 FREEHOLD

FOR EARLY SALE

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. R.A.W. (D.1917.)

WANTED

WILTS—HANTS BORDER

SMALL ESTATE CARRYING A PERIOD HOUSE

which can have between 6 and 15 bedrooms, and a stretch of fishing.

ACREAGE ABOUT 2 300

which can be let provided shooting in hand.

SMALL ACREAGE CONSIDERED IF SHOOTING AVAILABLE TO RENT NEARBY.

Purchaser, an architect, will renovate if necessary.

EARLY POSSESSION NOT ESSENTIAL.

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (Ref. M)

MID-SUSSEX

Superb position adjoining village common. Main line station 1 mile, London 45 minutes.

A "BLACK AND WHITE" PERIOD HOUSE

of outstanding charm, completely modernised and in excellent repair.

6 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, STAFF FLAT, etc.

Central heating throughout. All main services.

DOUBLE GARAGE. HARD TENNIS COURT, MODERN DETACHED COTTAGE.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY WITH ABOUT 1¾ ACRES

Strongly recommended by the Owner's Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. E.H.T. (E.2257.)

COLLINS & COLLINS AND RAWLENCE & SQUAREY

WESTLAND HOUSE, CURZON STREET, W.1. Tel. GROsvenor 3641 (6 lines).
(AND AT SALISBURY, SOUTHAMPTON, SHERBORNE AND TAUNTON)

AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY

SUPERBLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE ADJOINING THE ROYAL PARK AT WINDSOR

(Private gate from own grounds gives direct access to the park. Polo at Smith's Lawn, within a few minutes' walk.)

Providing every amenity and ideally situate for London (23 miles), Ascot, Windsor, Henley, etc.

MAINTAINED IN EXCELLENT ORDER

The MAIN RESIDENCE contains fine entrance hall, 4 beautifully proportioned reception rooms, cloakroom, 7 principal bedrooms, 5 luxury bathrooms, nursery suite and staff bedrooms and bathroom. Modern domestic offices.

Main services. Central heating.

2 garage blocks (each with flat over). Entrance lodge. Cottage. First-class stabling and yard (12 loose boxes, etc., groom's room and bath).

Lake, magnificent swimming pool and children's pool, tennis lawn, landscaped gardens, woodland, orchards, kitchen garden and paddocks.

IN ALL ABOUT 23 ACRES

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Full details from the Sole Agents, COLLINS & COLLINS AND RAWLENCE & SQUAREY (as above).

WINDSOR, BURNHAM
FARNHAM COMMON

A. C. FROST & CO.

BEACONSFIELD
GERRARDS CROSS

BETWEEN BEACONSFIELD AND PENN

Ideally situated on high ground in a secluded country lane, yet only 1 mile from main line station.

PICTURESQUE COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE

with 4 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 reception, usual offices. Garage. Lovely garden, **1½ ACRES, or would be sold with about ¾ acre.**

FREEHOLD

BEACONSFIELD
BACKING ON TO WOODLANDS

WELL-BUILT FAMILY HOUSE, VERY CONVENIENT FOR STATION, SHOPS AND SCHOOLS

5 bedrooms, 3 reception, cloaks, usual offices. All services.

2 garages.

Delightful garden with Alpine greenhouse, **ABOUT 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD**

Apply: Beaconsfield Office (Tel. 600-2).

BEACONSFIELD

Recently erected and architect-designed, 8 minutes walk from station.

Very well built and fitted and containing: 3 bedrooms, 2 reception, cloaks, modern kitchen, tiled bathroom. Main services and central heating. Brick garage.

FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

Apply: Beaconsfield Office (Tel. 600-2).

BURNHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Close to village shops; ½ mile golf course and rural countryside; ¾ mile station (Paddington 35 mins.).

MODERN DETACHED HOUSE. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen. All main services.

Integral garage. Well laid out garden. **FREEHOLD**

PRICE £3,950

Apply: Burnham Office (Tel. Burnham 1000-1).

IN COURSE OF ERECTION AT MAIDENHEAD

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSES

3 good bedrooms, bathroom, 2 receptions (make one room, 28 ft. 6 ins. by 13 ft. 6ins.), well-fitted kitchen.

Brick garages. **FREEHOLD**

80% MORTGAGES AVAILABLE

PRICE £4,100

Apply: Burnham Office (Tel. Burnham 1000-1).

5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1
GROsvenor
5131 (8 lines)

CURTIS & HENSON

ESTABLISHED 1875

and at
21, HORSEFAIR,
BANBURY, OXON
Tel. 3295-6

CLOSE TO

SOUTH CORNISH COAST

In a sheltered and well-wooded valley, 1½ miles from the sea.

AN ATTRACTIVE OLD WATER MILL

Carefully restored and modernised at considerable expense.

Comprising:

Sitting room, modern kitchen with Aga cooker and Agamatic, dining recess. Maid's room, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main water and electricity. Central heating.

MOST ATTRACTIVE GARDEN OF ABOUT **1 ACRE,** BOUNDED BY A STREAM.

R.V. £34 (RATES £24 P.A.)

PRICE £6,250 FREEHOLD

DEVON

200 ACRE T.T. ATTESTED DAIRY AND MIXED FARM

With charming old Farmhouse, facing south.

Comprising:

3 reception rooms, study, cloakroom, kitchen with Aga, 4 bedrooms and bathroom. FIRST-CLASS RANGE OF FARM BUILDINGS including superb modern dairy block, stockyards, fine barn, deep litter house, Dutch barn, etc. Bailiff's house and 2 cottages.

Main electricity. Excellent water supply.

GOOD PRIVATE FISHING

The house and buildings are centrally sited and the majority of the land is on a gentle southern slope. All enclosures are of convenient size and watered.

PRICE £16,000 FREEHOLD

Agents: GUNTON & EDWARDS, Port Navas, Falmouth, and CURTIS & HENSON, London.

MESSRS. CURTIS & HENSON ARE RETAINED BY CLIENTS WHO ARE SEEKING THE FOLLOWING:

RESIDENTIAL ESTATE WITH REALLY FINE QUEEN ANNE OR EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE

8-10 bedrooms, 3-6 reception, 3-4 bathrooms, etc. Up to **100 ACRES** of land with 1 or 2 cottages.

HERTFORDSHIRE LIKED BUT OTHER COUNTIES TO THE WEST AND SOUTH-WEST CONSIDERED UP TO 1½ HOURS OF LONDON

Reply to London Office.

NORTH COTSWOLDS

Between Banbury and Worcester.

SPACIOUS 4-5 BEDROOMED HOUSE, with 2-3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. THE HOUSE MUST OCCUPY A GOOD POSITION and a price in the region of **£5,000-£8,000 WOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR A SUITABLE PROPERTY.**

Reply to Banbury Office.

NO COMMISSION REQUIRED FROM VENDORS.

SURREY

Outskirts of a small village between Redhill and Bletchingley. Main line stn. 4 miles.

NOW IN COURSE OF CONVERSION

from a well appointed country house.

TWO EXCELLENT SELF-CONTAINED HOUSES

In parklike surroundings with superb and far-reaching southerly views over agricultural land. Approached by a private drive, the accommodation will provide:

No. 1 HOUSE, with spacious rooms, dining hall, charming drawing room (20 ft. by 18 ft.), fine playroom (34 ft. by 20 ft.), cloakroom, kitchen, 3 good bedrooms, modern bathroom, conservatory. Attractively timbered and mature garden, very easy of upkeep, with tennis lawn. *Main water, electricity and drainage.*

ABOUT ¾ ACRE. PRICE £3,950 FREEHOLD.

No. 2 HOUSE comprises: Entrance hall, drawing room (20 ft. by 16 ft.), small dining room, large kitchen (breakfast room with Esse cooker), 7 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Matured garden, mainly lawn. *Main water, electricity and drainage.*

ABOUT ¼ ACRE. PRICE £3,350 FREEHOLD.

The existing oil-fired central heating system could be utilised by arrangement.

5-acre paddock available to the purchaser of either house.

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, London.

RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, F.R.I.C.S.

SALISBURY, LONDON, SHERBORNE, SOUTHAMPTON, TAUNTON

NEW HALL, BODENHAM, SALISBURY

3 MILES FROM SALISBURY. LYING OFF THE BOURNEMOUTH ROAD

A FINE GEORGIAN STYLE COUNTRY HOUSE

SUITABLE EITHER FOR PRIVATE RESIDENCE OR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES

Comprises:

7 principal and 8 secondary bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 5 reception rooms. Good domestic quarters.

Main electricity. Good water supply.

CENTRAL HEATING

SEPARATE LODGE AND COTTAGE
GARAGES AND STABLING
with flat over.

Parklike grounds and walled garden.
Tennis court.

100 YARDS SINGLE BANK FISHING IN AVON

62 ACRES

FOR SALE WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION OF HOUSE AND 17 ACRES. REMAINING 45 ACRES AVAILABLE APRIL 16, 1957

Apply: Salisbury Office (Tel. 2467-8).

16, ARCADE STREET,
IPSWICH
Ipswich 4334

WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET,
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1
MAYfair 5411

SURREY—LONDON 22 MILES

West End and City 40 minutes by fast electrics.

DELIGHTFUL RESIDENTIAL FARMING ESTATE, ABOUT 160 ACRES. PERIOD MANOR HOUSE. Cloaks, 3 reception rooms, model kitchen, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Central heating. Main services.

Excellent buildings including cowsheds for 30, 20 loose boxes, Danish piggery, etc. 4 cottages.

Substantial tax allowances. Pedigree herd and implements optional. **PRICE, etc.,** of WOODCOCKS, London Office.

KENT—CHARING CROSS 12 MILES

Perfectly set on a private estate with complete seclusion.

A MODERN (1934) RESIDENCE IN ¾-ACRE wooded grounds. 3 reception rooms, galleried landing, 5 bedrooms, well appointed bathroom.

Part central heating. Every modern comfort.

2 GARAGES

Very charming gardens.

A unique freehold house for immediate sale owing to owner going abroad.

Full details of WOODCOCKS, London Office.

SUFFOLK COAST

Favoured town and sea 1 mile.

WELL-APPOINTED, EASILY-RUN DETACHED MODERN RESIDENCE in attractive **¾-ACRE** garden; facing south, adjoining famous golf course, with distant views over yachting estuary. Cloaks, lounge hall, charming drawing room (27 ft. by 20 ft.), dining room, kitchen (Aga), study, 5-7 beds., 3 baths. Main services. Central heat. First-class order, tasteful decorations. Double garage. **FREEHOLD £6,400**

Recommended by Ipswich Office.

HERTS—BEDS BORDER

2 miles express station; London 30.

CHOICE ATTESTED DAIRY FARM, 60 ACRES, FOR SALE owing to serious health breakdown. Attractive house, cloaks, 2 reception, 5 bedrooms (all with basins), bathroom (h. and c.).

Main electric light and water. Modern drainage system.

EXCELLENT BUILDINGS WITH MILKING PARLOUR, CONCRETED YARDS, ETC.

OFFERS INVITED FOR VERY QUICK SALE

Cottage available.

WOODCOCKS, London Office.

WEST SUSSEX

Beautiful Storrington district, 9 miles Worthing.

VERY FERTILE ATTESTED FARM, 240 ACRES, including 40 acres well-sheltered riverside and brook meadows. Pleasantly placed farmhouse, 3 reception, 5-6 bedrooms, bathroom.

Electric light and water.

3 SETS FARMBUILDINGS (COWSHEDS 27, DUTCH BARN, ETC.). 6 COTTAGES

A very genuine opportunity at £21,000 freehold.

WOODCOCKS, London Office.

23, MOUNT STREET,
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

WILSON & CO.

GROsvenor 1441

UNSPOILT PART OF HAMPSHIRE

Easy reach Newbury, Salisbury and Andover. 4 miles main line station (Waterloo 1½ hours).

A COMPACT QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

In a small hamlet overlooking parkland and farmlands. Charming lounge-hall, 3 reception, 5-7 beds., 2 baths. Central heating. Aga. Walled gardens, farm buildings, pasture, arable and woodland.

FOR SALE WITH 2 OR 9 ACRES

RURAL BERKSHIRE

About 30 miles West of London and 6 miles from Reading on a quiet country road leading to Waltham St. Lawrence.

LOVELY GEORGIAN HOUSE

8 beds., 3 baths., attractive hall, drawing room 28 ft. by 16 ft., 2 other reception. Central heating, mains, Aga. Staff flat and 2 cottages.

GARAGE AND STABLING

Walled gardens, valuable pastureland.

FOR SALE WITH 18 ACRES

SOUTH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS

High up close to a charming picturesque village with good bus service. Glorious views.

A DELIGHTFUL PERIOD HOUSE WITH AN ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN FRONT

6 beds., 3 baths., 3 reception rooms, Aga. Main electricity, gas and water. Central heating throughout. Garage and stabling.

DELIGHTFUL COTTAGE

FOR SALE WITH 14 ACRES

SURREY—WEST SUSSEX BORDER

Overlooking agricultural country a few miles from the charming village of Rusper. Ideally placed for daily travel. About ½ hour London.

A PERFECT CHARACTER HOUSE

In the farmhouse style with every modern comfort. 6 beds., 2 baths., 3 reception, modern offices with Esse. Main electricity and water. Garage and excellent stabling. Enchanting gardens with small lake and woodland.

FOR SALE WITH 3 ACRES

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1

STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN

(Formerly JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, LONDON)

HYDe Park 0911-2-3-4

1½ HOURS EXPRESS from LONDON

and situated in a good district for hunting.

17th-CENTURY MANOR HOUSE OF MEDIUM SIZE

surrounded by its own lovely grounds and farmlands (in hand) of about **124 ACRES,** together with ample FARM BUILDINGS AND 2 COTTAGES

The residence is in a small park, about 400 ft. above sea level, is stone built and has 4 bathrooms.

Main electricity and power. Main water. Central heating.

FOR SALE AT A VERY REASONABLE PRICE

Inspected and recommended by STYLES, WHITLOCK AND PETERSEN, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.17,829)

WEST SURREY

Lovely walks and rides over about 1,000 acres of surrounding forest lands.

MOST ATTRACTIVE PERIOD RESIDENCE

In first-rate order, sunny aspects, beautiful views. *Accommodation:* Hall and 2 sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms (5 basins), 2 bathrooms. Aga cooker. Main elec. and power. Co.'s water, central heating and hot water by oil-fired boilers. Stabling. Garage. Farm buildings, 2 cottages. Total area of land about **43 ACRES,** including woodlands. Gardens easy of upkeep. **Very moderate price (freehold) accepted.**

Inspected and recommended: STYLES, WHITLOCK AND PETERSEN, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.28,117)

NEAR WINCHESTER

South of the city, with bus service.

One of the most attractive residences in this favourite district is for sale on account of recent death of owner.

EARLY VACANT POSSESSION

Southerly aspect. Grounds and paddock, orchard, etc., of **3 ACRES**

Lounge hall and 3 sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms (5 with basins), 2 bathrooms, maid's sitting room, Aga cooker.

All main services. Oil-fired central heating.

Well-timbered gardens and grounds.

A VERY MODERATE PRICE WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR THIS FREEHOLD RESIDENCE, WHICH OCCUPIES A RETIRED POSITION AND WELL AWAY FROM NOISE OF TRAFFIC

Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents: STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.28,264)

FITZROY HOUSE,
LEWES (Tel. 750)

CLIFFORD DANN, B.Sc., A.R.I.C.S., A.A.I.

and at DITCHLING (Tel. Hassocks 48)

Chartered Surveyor, Chartered Auctioneer and Estate Agent.

MID SUSSEX

ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE VILLAGE OF DITCHLING

In a quiet and secluded position, with views to the Downs. 1½ miles main line station at Hassocks.

ONE OF THE MOST CHARMING COTTAGES IN THE VILLAGE

Restored and modernised, and in excellent order.

L-SHAPED LOUNGE (17ft. by 17ft. 5in.), CLOAKROOM, WELL-FITTED KITCHEN, SMALL DINING ROOM, 2 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM.

SMALL WELL-KEPT GARDEN, WITH LAWN AND ROCKERY.

All main services.

VACANT POSSESSION

FREEHOLD £4,100

Apply Sole Agent's Ditchling Office.

KENT OFFICES
SEVENOAKS Tel. 2246
OTFORD Tel. 164
TUNBRIDGE WELLS Tel. 446

IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO.

SURREY OFFICES
OXTED Tel. 240 and 1166
REIGATE Tel. 5441

KENTISH VILLAGE—FAST TRAINS TO LONDON

5 miles from Sevenoaks, 12 from Maidstone.

A distinctive small country home

3-4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, hall, cloakroom.

Central heating.

Main water and electricity.

Garage, summer house, garden and paddock

1½ ACRES

FREEHOLD £6,500

Owner's Agents: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., 125, High St., Sevenoaks. (Tel. 2246—4 lines).

DORKING, SURREY

High, favoured residential position, 2 minutes town centre.

Spacious modern architect-designed residence.

4 BEDROOMS (h. and c.), BATHROOM

2 RECEPTION ROOMS

GARAGE

½ ACRE of matured garden.

Mortgage available

Vacant Possession

FREEHOLD

Recommended: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., 67, High Street, Reigate, Surrey (Tel. 5441-2).

WILDERNESSE, SEVENOAKS

A LUXURIOUS, EASILY RUN MODERN HOUSE, facing south and close to golf links.

Master suite of bedroom, dressing room and bathroom, 5 other bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms (parquet floors), hall, cloaks, staff room and offices.

3 GARAGES

Central heating (thermostatic). Main services.

Grounds **2 ACRES** All in superb order.

FREEHOLD £10,250

Particulars and photographs of IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., 125, High Street, Sevenoaks (Tel. 2246).

BETWEEN OXTED AND LIMPSFIELD

In a beautiful, high, secluded position in Surrey, only 40 minutes London.

DELIGHTFUL ARCHITECT-DESIGNED RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

4 principal bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 3-4 reception rooms, sun lounge. Staff flat. Double garage.

ALMOST 6½ ACRES

FREEHOLD £10,000

Recommended by IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., Oxted (Tel. 240 and 1166).

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

SURREY

30 MILES FROM LONDON. IN BEAUTIFUL SECLUDED GROUNDS

AN EXCEPTIONAL HOUSE OF CHARACTER OVERLOOKING A LAKE

33 ft. pine panelled lounge-hall, 3 reception rooms, 7 principal and 3 staff bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, usual offices.

Main services, central heating.

GARAGE FOR 3 CARS AND FLAT OVER
2 COTTAGES

LAKE WITH BOATHOUSE

LOVELY GROUNDS
MOSTLY WOODLAND
with masses of specimen azaleas and rhododendrons.

ABOUT 12 ACRES

With Possession.

£9,500 FREEHOLD

Joint Sole Agents: Mrs. N. C. TUFNELL, Estate Offices, Sunninghill (Tel. Ascot 1666) and Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & CO. (J.23111)

SUSSEX—5 MILES FROM THE SEA

Battle 3 miles, Hastings 5 miles.

MOST ATTRACTIVE MODERN (1953/1954) RESIDENCE

LOVELY POSITION ON HIGH GROUND

4 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, hall, lounge, dining room, beautifully fitted American kitchen, annexe room.

2 GARAGES

Oil-fired central heating.

Main electricity and water.

Simple pleasure garden.

Woodland garden.

IN ALL ABOUT 5 ACRES. PRICE £9,250

Further particulars from JOHN D. WOOD & CO. (33894)

SOUTH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Within 3 miles of Wadhurst Station, about 1 hour from London.

CHARMING TUDOR RESIDENCE

WITH SMALL ATTESTED T.T. FARM

Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, modern kitchen.

GARAGE

Part central heating.

Main electricity and water.

MODEL FARM
BUILDINGS
including cowhouse for 16, and 2 new cottages.

ABOUT 50 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION

Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1 (R.33,089)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AND WARWICKSHIRE BORDERS

About 10 miles from RUGBY (1½ hours from London) and with direct express communication to the North and Scotland.

CENTRE OF THE PYTCHLEY HUNT

This beautiful original TUDOR house of mellowed red brick and mullioned windows, on the confines of a village.

7 principal bedrooms (5 have basins), staff wing, 5 bathrooms, sitting hall, 4 reception rooms. Beautiful oak panelling.

Oil-fired central heating.

Main electricity and water.

7 loose boxes, garages for 6 cars.

FLAT AND MODERN COTTAGE

LOVELY GARDEN

NON-ATTENTION
HARD TENNIS COURT

About 13 acres of rich pasture and some woodland. In all about

18 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £12,000

Inspected and highly recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & CO. (C.51660)

PROPERTY REQUIRED BY A PEER

DISTRICT WITHIN A 25-MILE RADIUS OF STAINES, SOUTH OF THE THAMES AND NOT EAST OF REIGATE OR WEST OF HINDHEAD.

HOUSE GEORGIAN/REGENCY FOR CHOICE BUT IN ANY CASE NOT WITH LOW CEILINGS OR LATTICED WINDOWS. NOT LESS THAN 7 OR PREFERABLY MORE THAN 9 BEDROOMS BUT A LARGER HOUSE CAPABLE OF BEING REDUCED WOULD BE CONSIDERED

LAND AT LEAST **100 ACRES** UP TO **250 ACRES** FOR **BEEF FARMING**

NO HURRY FOR POSSESSION

Will Owners with suitable properties to offer, or their Agents or Solicitors, please send particulars (and a photograph if possible) to the Purchaser's Surveyors, Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & CO. (Ref. A.F.H.), 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1, whose fees will be paid by the Purchaser.

MAYfair 6341 (10 lines) — 23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1 — Telegrams: "Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London"

STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER

HEAD OFFICE: 41, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1 (GRO. 3056)
Lewes, Ipswich, Builth Wells, Beaulieu, Chelmsford, Oxford, Plymouth, Andover

By Direction of Lt. Col. J. Baskervyle-Glegg.

CHESHIRE—15 MILES SOUTH OF MANCHESTER

OCCUPYING A MOST ATTRACTIVE POSITION ON A PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL ESTATE.

THE FINE BRICK HOUSE IN GEORGIAN STYLE

SUITABLE FOR SCHOOL, INSTITUTION OR SIMILAR PURPOSE

ENTRANCE HALL, 4 RECEPTION AND 18 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS, EXTENSIVE DOMESTIC AND STAFF QUARTERS.

Main water and electricity. Part central heating.

3 GARAGES. EXTENSIVE STABLING. BOTHY AND 3 COTTAGES.

ATTRACTIVELY LAID-OUT GARDENS AND GROUNDS, INCLUDING TENNIS COURT, EXTEND IN ALL TO ABOUT 8 ACRES

Further level land available if required.

TO BE LET ON LEASE TO AN APPROVED TENANT ON TERMS TO BE AGREED

Land Agents and Sole Letting Agents: STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER,
The Estate Office, Peckforton, nr. Tarporley, Cheshire (Tel. Bunbury 373) or Head Office as above.

COTSWOLDS—Easy reach Oxford and Banbury

STONE BUILT HOUSE with many Historic Associations

At one time an old coaching inn reputed to date from 14th century.

LOUNGE HALL
3 RECEPTION
7 BEDROOMS
2-3 BATHROOMS

STAFF SITTING ROOM
(Part forms self-contained wing which would let easily if not required.)
Main electricity.
Good water supply.

GARDENER'S COTTAGE
Useful range of outbuildings.

DOUBLE GARAGE AND STABLING

Garden and paddock of about 3¼ acres and woodland. In all **ABOUT 7½ ACRES**

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

Agents: STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER, 14, St. Giles, Oxford (Tel. Oxford 55232), or Head Office as above.

By Direction of the Trustees of the 3rd Baron Tollemache dec'd.

CHESHIRE—Close to Tarporley

PORTIONS OF THE WELL-KNOWN PECKFORTON ESTATE,
TOWNS GREEN FARM, WETTENHALL

Excellent Dairy Holding

House of 2 reception and 4 bedrooms, bathroom.
Main water and electricity.

SUBSTANTIAL BUILDINGS
include standings for 98.

Pair of cottages.

IN ALL 210 ACRES

ALSO

A useful pig and poultry holding, **Palmers Smallholding, Tiverton,** comprising 2 reception and 3 bedrooms, bathroom, main water and electricity, useful outbuildings. IN ALL 4½ ACRES.

BOTH PROPERTIES WITH VACANT POSSESSION

FOR SALE BY AUCTION AT AN EARLY DATE
(unless previously sold)

Solicitors: Messrs. DIXON, DURRAD, Hawthorn Buildings, Welsh Row, Nantwich.
Land Agents: STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER, Peckforton, nr. Tarporley.
Joint Auctioneers: STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER, Head Office as above, and JOSEPH WRIGHT, Alpraham, Tarporley, Cheshire (Bunbury 467/8).

HERTFORDSHIRE CHILTERNS

ADJOINING AND OVERLOOKING ASHRIDGE PARK.

Main line station 5 miles. London 50 minutes.

MODERNISED PERIOD HOUSE DATING FROM THE 17th CENTURY

On edge of charming old village of Little Gaddesden.

3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 4 staff rooms and bathroom.

Central heating, main electricity and water.

GARAGE FOR 4 CARS

STABLING

Garden and woodland
ABOUT 5¼ ACRES

PRICE £6,950

Agents: STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER, Head Office, as above.

By direction of Sir Edward Bridges, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., M.C.

RENOWNED BOAR'S HILL, NEAR OXFORD

Oxford 5 miles, Abingdon 4 miles.

CHILSWELL HOUSE

Splendidly built family house adjacent to Preservation Trust land and facing south, with superb views. 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, compact domestic quarters.
Central heating.
Main electricity and water.
Modern drainage.
Gardener's cottage, garage and outbuildings.
Secluded grounds, in all
ABOUT 17 ACRES

Vacant possession except two fields let on annual tenancy.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION AS A WHOLE at the RANDOLPH HOTEL, OXFORD, on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold)

Solicitors: Messrs. WATERHOUSE & Co., 1, New Court, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2.

Auctioneers: STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER, 14, St. Giles, Oxford (Tel. 55232), or Head Office, as above.

WELLER, SON & GRINSTED

86, WOODBRIDGE ROAD, GUILDFORD (Tel. 3386) and at Cranleigh.

WORPLESDON, SURREY

London 29 miles (Waterloo 40 minutes).

PERRY HILL FARM

An excellent residential and agricultural property

with delightful 4-bedroomed 15th-CENTURY RESIDENCE, good Attested farm buildings, including cowhouse for 9, hay barn and loose boxes; 26 acres productive land. Main services.

Exceptionally pleasant and convenient country position.
FOR SALE BY AUCTION, NOVEMBER 6.
Apply Auctioneers, as above.

A. WYCHERLEY

Auctioneers, Surveyors and Valuers,
56, HIGH STREET, LEWES (Tel. 29)

EAST SUSSEX

TUDOR FARMHOUSE WITH OPEN VIEWS

4 bed., bath., 3 rec., cloaks, kitchen, thatched TEA BARN 45 ft. by 18 ft. seats 100. Outbuildings converted into 7 "Motel" rooms for 16 guests. Garden. Pasture about

6 ACRES

PRICE £8,500 FREEHOLD

including all Tea House and "Motel" equipment.

Messrs. A. WYCHERLEY, Auctioneers, Surveyors and Valuers, 56, High Street, Lewes (Tel. 29).

ESTATE OFFICES

KENsington 1490
Telegrams:
"Estate, Harrods, London"

HARRODS

32, 34 and 36, HANS CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1

Southampton, West Byfleet
Haslemere and Berkhamsted

AUCTION NOVEMBER 14 NEXT (unless sold previously)

BETWEEN MAIDSTONE AND ASHFORD

In rural countryside. Within sight of the North Downs.

WOODCUT HOUSE, HOLLINGBOURNE, KENT

Outskirts of village. Easily accessible to Maidstone.

Impressive Country Residence. Large hall, 4 reception rooms (several finely panelled), 11 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. **Suitable for conversion** (subject to planning permission). *Main electricity and water. Partial central heating.* Two cottages. Stabling block. Small formal garden. Meadows and arable land.

ABOUT 16¾ ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE AS A WHOLE OR IN 3 LOTS

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806).

AUCTION NOVEMBER 14 NEXT (unless sold previously)

ON A LOVELY REACH OF THE THAMES

Easy reach of Windsor with gardens to the river. Adjacent to a golf course.

FROM THE RIVERSIDE LAWN

SUMPTER MEAD, DATCHET

Pleasant Freehold Residence.

2 LARGE RECEPTION ROOMS,
4 BEDS. (3 h. and c.),
2 BATHS.

Main electricity, gas and water.
Partial central heating.

GARAGE

Well-matured grounds.

Joint Auctioneers: W. B. MASON, 2 & 4, Sheet Street, Windsor (*Tel.* 1); and HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 809).

KINGSWOOD, SURREY

40 minutes Town. Pretty situation, between the station and the golf course.

CHARMING MODERN COTTAGE STYLE RESIDENCE

in very good condition.

Hall, cloaks and sun loggia, 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

Partial central heating.

Spacious loft used as *studio.*

Main services.

GARAGE

GREENHOUSE

Wendy house and outbuildings. Natural woodland garden of about **¾ ACRE**

ONLY £5,950 FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 810).

KENT COAST. BIRCHINGTON

On the cliffs overlooking a series of sandy bays, 100 yards from the sea.

FASCINATING CHALET BUNGALOW

with large rooms.

3 reception and 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, compact kitchen, etc.

DETACHED GARAGE

All main services.

Easily maintained garden, lawns, flower beds, etc.

ONLY £5,500 FREEHOLD

Inspected and recommended by HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806).

20 MILES NORTH-WEST OF TOWN

A REALLY OUTSTANDING SMALL MODERN HOUSE

On bus route, easy reach several stations. Backing on to Green Belt farmland.

Beautifully appointed, with polished hardwood and cork floors.

All main services and part central heating.

Hall, cloaks, 2 lovely reception rooms (23 ft. by 14 ft. 6 in. and 17 ft. 6 in. by 11 ft. 3 in.), large luxury kitchen with breakfast recess, 3 beds., excellent bathroom. Large loft ideal playroom. Detached brick garage, etc. Charming easily maintained gardens about **1 ACRE**

FREEHOLD £6,250. POSSESSION

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, London, S.W.1. (*KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 809).

AUCTION NOVEMBER 14 NEXT (unless sold previously)

Fine situation. Adjoining National Trust Lands and close to Colley Hill.

ODDHOLT, LOWER KINGSWOOD, SURREY

An unusually attractive Colonial-style Residence

Delightful woodland situation. Complete seclusion. 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Main services.
Central heating.

2 garages. Excellent cottage. Garden chalet.

Delightful formal gardens and woodlands.

OVER 9½ ACRES

Freehold for sale with Possession.

As a Whole or in 2 Lots.

Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. TOWERS, ELLIS & CO., 44, Queensway, W.2 (*BAYswater* 4227); and HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806).

MAGNIFICENT VIEWS OVER ST. IVES BAY

CORNWALL

On the outskirts of the picturesque artists' village.

Well-equipped Family House, suitable for private occupation or as a guest house or private hotel.

10 beds., 3 baths., 4 reception rooms (2 oak panelled), compact offices. *All main services.* Good order.

2 DETACHED GARAGES

Lovely gardens with subtropical trees and shrubs.

About **1½ ACRES** (might be divided).

REASONABLE PRICE FOR QUICK SALE

Inspected by HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 810).

SUSSEX AND KENT BORDER

1 hour London. Easy reach Tunbridge Wells. 600 feet up. Due south aspect. Lovely views.

EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

Hall, cloakroom, 3 good reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, etc. *Co.'s electric light and water.* Garage for 2. Oak floors, doors and window frames.

GROUNDS OF *GREAT BEAUTY* inexpensive in upkeep, cedar and other rare trees, flowering shrubs, good lawn, small orchard, kitchen garden, in all about **2 ACRES**

ONLY £6,500
FREEHOLD
5 minutes first-rate golf course.

Highly recommended. HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806).

HANDY FOR OXFORD AND STOW-ON-THE-WOLD

Edge of a picturesque village.

COTSWOLD
STONE-BUILT TUDOR GEM

2 good reception rooms, cloakroom, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, compact offices.

Heavy oak beams. Open Tudor fireplaces.

Co.'s water, electric light and power. Partial central heating.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS

Ornamental garden with lawns, flower beds, kitchen garden, about ½ **ACRE**

ONLY £4,750 FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806).

SURREY HILLS. ABOUT 500 FEET UP

Golf at Chipstead, Kingswood and Walton Heath. 45 minutes from Town.

QUEEN ANNE STYLE RESIDENCE BEAUTIFULLY FITTED

Hall, cloaks, 2 reception, study, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Main electricity, light, gas, water, central heating.

GARAGE 2 CARS

STABLING

Outbuildings: excellent cottage, beautiful grounds, tennis lawn, room for 2 courts, handsome trees and shrubs, kitchen garden, orchard, paddock, area about **4½ ACRES**

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Inspected by HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 807).

BOURNEMOUTH
SOUTHAMPTON

FOX & SONS

BRIGHTON
WORTHING

BETWEEN

WINCHESTER AND ALTON

Occupying secluded site within few minutes walk of shops and main line station.

ATTRACTIVE BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

3-4 bedrooms, half-tiled bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen. *All main services. Central heating. 3 garages.*

DELIGHTFUL GARDEN OF **1¼ ACRES**

FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton
Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

BETWEEN

HORSHAM AND WORTHING

ENJOYING VIEWS OF THE SOUTH DOWNS
VILLAGE SETTING

Standing well back from the road and enjoying complete seclusion.

A most picturesque Detached Old-world Freehold

Modernised Cottage containing a profusion of oak beams. 3 bedrooms, well-fitted bathroom, 2 fine reception rooms, kitchen. Large garage. Well-matured formal garden.

Price £3,950 Freehold. Strongly recommended.

FOX & SONS, 41, Chapel Road, Worthing. Tel. 6120.

DORSET

Only a short motor run to Bournemouth and 2 miles from good golf course.

Of special appeal to the garden lover and those *who require the almost perfect small property.*

CHOICE SMALL RESIDENCE

Unique in character and possessing every comfort and convenience. Exceptionally picturesque with

Norfolk reed thatched roof.

4 bedrooms (all with basins, h. and c.), bathroom, delightful lounge (24 ft. by 17 ft. 6 ins.), panelled dining room, sun loggia, oak-panelled entrance hall, cloakroom, tiled kitchen.

Main electricity and power, gas and water. Part central heating.

PICTURESQUE COTTAGE GARAGES 3 CARS

3 HEATED GREENHOUSES

CHARMINGLY DESIGNED GARDENS with profusion of specimen trees, shrubs and weeping willows, water garden, kitchen garden and orchard.

ABOUT 3 ACRES

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

MID-SUSSEX

In a delightful rural situation adjacent to commonland, and well-known golf course. Within daily reach of London from Haywards Heath, 9 miles.

A charming small Country Residence of character.

3 principal and 3 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, dressing room, galleried hall, drawing room, dining room, study, cloakroom, breakfast room, modern kitchen. Central heating. Main electricity and water. Garden room. Double garage and other buildings. Delightful gardens, of about **1 ACRE. PRICE £8,750 FREEHOLD**

FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).

IN THE

VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE

On the outskirts of a charming village, within easy reach of Wantage, Newbury and Oxford.

HALF-TIMBERED TUDOR COTTAGE. Carefully modernised, of particular interest to those seeking a secluded site. 2 good bedrooms, bathroom, lounge (25 ft. by 16 ft.) with oak beams, excellent kitchen. Main services. Garage.

Woodland grounds with trout stream.

FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

WINCHESTER
FLEET
FARNBOROUGH

ALFRED PEARSON & SON

HARTLEY WINTNEY
ALDERSHOT
ALRESFORD

TO BE LET UNFURNISHED

Between Winchester and Southampton.

TWO SELF-CONTAINED LUXURY FLATS

Situated in magnificent private grounds.

Each containing

HALL, LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, KITCHEN, 2 OR 3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, ETC.

GARAGE IF REQUIRED.

RENTAL £239/257
Inclusive per annum.

Winchester Office (Tel. 3388)

HANTS—BERKS BORDERS

In an unspoilt situation ¼ mile from village.

A PAIR OF ATTRACTIVE OLD WORLD COTTAGES ideal for converting to a single residence.

5 first floor rooms, hall and 4 ground floor rooms.

PRICE £2,950

Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

NORTH HAMPSHIRE

In a quiet village, 2 miles main line station.

A CHARMING

LITTLE COTTAGE RESIDENCE

FULLY MODERNISED

3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, LARGE LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, KITCHEN, GARAGE.

All main services.

PRETTY OLD WORLD GARDEN

PRICE £3,600

Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

FOREST ROW, SUSSEX
(Near EAST GRINSTEAD),
Tel. FOREST ROW 363 and 364

POWELL & PARTNER, LTD.

And at Edenbridge (Tel. 2381), Kent. Caterham (Tel. Upper Warlingham 3319), Surrey

OLD WORLD SURREY VILLAGE

London 29 miles. First-class position.

16th-CENTURY COTTAGE TEA ROOMS

Exceptional residential and/or business opportunity in well-known Surrey beauty spot. 30 ft. tea lounge, 2nd lounge 17 ft. by 12 ft., kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, cottage with 2 bed., bathroom, kitchen, lounge.

FREEHOLD £4,750. Apply Caterham office. R.4.

KENT, LOVELY COWDEN DISTRICT

View over open Country. London 30 miles.

Attractive modern cottage-style country residence. Unspoilt rural setting. Well constructed, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 large reception rooms, kitchen, central heating. Main e.l. and water. Garage.

½ ACRE. FREEHOLD £4,950.

Apply Edenbridge office.

EAST SUSSEX — BUXTED

Panoramic views. 1¼ hrs. Victoria by rail.
CHOICE POSITION SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED

A unique cedar wood residence of exceptional quality. Individually designed and built in 1938/39. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception, kitchen. Spacious hall, large sunny rooms, strip pine flooring. Main services. Garage. **1½ ACRES. FREEHOLD £6,000.**

Apply Forest Row office. R.1025.

SACKVILLE HOUSE
40, PICCADILLY, W.1
(Entrance in Sackville Street)

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY HOUSES

Telephones:
REGent 2481 2482 2295

NORTHFIELDS, SAWBRIDGEWORTH

HERTS AND ESSEX BORDER

Retired, but easily accessible situation on gravel soil. Outskirts old-world village: 1 mile main line station and 3½ miles Bishop's Stortford.

POSSESSING THE ATMOSPHERE of a SMALL COUNTRY PROPERTY

Attractive and comfortable home with views over adjoining farmlands.

Drive approach.

Entrance hall and cloakroom.

3 reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom.

Garage.

Stabling.

Secluded grounds, orchard and paddock. **3 ACRES**

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY OR BY AUCTION LATER

Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

ON THE BORDERS OF SURREY AND SUSSEX

Nearly 400 feet up on a ridge with extensive south view.

BETWEEN REIGATE AND EAST GRINSTEAD

Really countryfied and away from building development.

38 minutes by rail from London via main line at Horley 3½ miles. With the cottage-annexe (under the same roof), this well sited house provides 4 receptions, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Aga cooker and boiler. Main water, electric light and power. Small farmery with range of brick buildings. Partly walled garden, orchard and large paddock.

LOWLY RATED AND REGISTERED AS A SMALLHOLDING

£6,500 WITH 5 ACRES

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

A SOMERSET

BEAUTY SPOT IN A SECLUDED OLD VILLAGE

OVERLOOKING TWO FISHING RIVERS, THE FROME AND AVON 6 MILES FROM BATH

Small spacious Regency House, part of which is much older.

3 reception rooms with oak floors, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Central heating from Trianco boiler. Main services.

Over an acre of attractive well timbered garden on a south slope with lovely view of the Limpley Stoke valley.

FOR SALE AT THE EXTREMELY REASONABLE PRICE OF £5,500

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

THE MANOR HOUSE

COLE, SOMERSET

Delightful secluded position between Sherborne and Bath surrounded by unspoilt countryside and within easy reach of good schools. Also handy for Bruton 1½ miles and Wincanton 5 miles.

CHARMING SMALL QUEEN ANNE MANOR HOUSE OF CHARACTER

Well equipped and completely modernised interior on 2 floors only.

Ready to walk into. 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, up-to-date kitchen with Esse cooker.

Main electricity and water.

2 good garages. Stable.

Secluded, easily run garden and orchard, the whole property bounded by a stream.

1½ ACRES

FOR SALE AT A TEMPTING PRICE OR BY AUCTION LATER

Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

WALTHAM ST. LAWRENCE, BERKSHIRE

Near this picturesque old village, convenient for Maidenhead, Windsor and Reading.

31 MILES FROM LONDON

Rural setting with long, tree-lined drive approach.

An attractive, modernised Country House with 24-ft. lounge, dining room, oak parquet floors, charming sun room, 6 bedrooms, 2 tiled bathrooms. *Central heating, main services.* Garage. Detached bungalow-cottage, stables and extensive outbuildings. Hard court and tennis pavilion. Well stocked and profusely timbered garden, orchard and two paddocks.

FORMING A MOST APPEALING HOME and extending to about

6 ACRES. FOR SALE AT £7,750

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

THE MAIN PORTION OF A CHARMING OLD VICARAGE

SOMERSET. 3½ MILES NORTH OF TAUNTON

In a much admired village. Necessary modernising is complete. All rooms are lofty and of generous dimensions. 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, modern bathroom and kitchen, cloakroom. *Partial central heating, main electric light and power.* Garage. Garden on south west slope with attractive view.

EXTENSIVE ORCHARD AND SMALL STREAM

£4,850 WITH NEARLY 3 ACRES

WILTS AND SOMERSET BORDERS

CLOSE TO BOX VILLAGE

JUST OFF THE MAIN ROAD, 5 MILES FROM BATH

Extremely comfortable and nice looking stone-built House in a third of an acre of secluded garden. Bright and cheerful interior, lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, kitchen-breakfast room, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 usable attic rooms on top floor. Agamatic boiler. Main services. Double garage.

ELEVATED POSITION WITH EXPANSIVE VIEW OF SURROUNDING HILL COUNTRY

FOR SALE AT £4,000

STIMPSON, LOCK & VINCE

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

METROPOLITAN STATION APPROACH, PINNER (Tel. 127/8)

PINNER

Elevated position close to golf course.

A DISTINCTIVE DETACHED COTTAGE STYLE RESIDENCE

Partial central heating, washbasins in all bedrooms, oak flooring to ground floor.

ACCOMMODATION:

Entrance hall, cloaks, thro' lounge (21 ft. by 15 ft. 6 in.), dining room, kitchen, etc., 4 bedrooms, bath, sep. W.C.

GARAGE

A SECLUDED AND EASILY MAINTAINED GARDEN OF ALMOST

HALF AN ACRE

CHICHESTER BOGNOR

WYATT & SON

SELSEY-ON-SEA HAVANT

CHARTERED AUCTIONEERS AND ESTATE AGENTS.

AT THE FOOT OF THE WEST SUSSEX DOWNS

In a delightful village 4 miles from Chichester and 7 miles from Arundel.

MEADOW COTTAGE, ALDINGBOURNE
SUSSEX STYLE PERIOD RESIDENCE

Hall, 2 large reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, modern kitchen and offices.

Main electricity, water and central heating.

Modern drainage.

SINGLE AND DOUBLE GARAGE

Particularly charming gardens with bowling green.

AUCTION OCTOBER 31 AT DOLPHIN HOTEL, CHICHESTER.

Illustrated particulars from Auctioneers: WYATT & SON, 59, East Street, Chichester. (Tel. 2296/7).

Tel. (3 lines)
GROsvenor 3121

WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET
LONDON, W.1

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND SUFFOLK BORDERS

ABOUT 7 MILES FROM NEWMARKET AND 12 MILES FROM BURY ST. EDMUNDS

THE WELL-KNOWN RESIDENTIAL, SPORTING AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE

known as

BRANCHES PARK, COWLINGE

COMPRISING THE DISTINCTIVE 18th-CENTURY MANSION EQUIPPED WITH MODERN SERVICES AND WITH MANY PERIOD FEATURES

STABLING AND GARAGE BUILDINGS WITH 2 FLATS

SQUASH COURT AND SWIMMING POOL, WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN, WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS AND PARKLAND, SECONDARY HOUSE, 2 LODGES AND 6 COTTAGES. STUD FARM WITH GROOM'S HOUSE AND 23 BOXES. VALUABLE TIMBER. ABOUT **400 ACRES** WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

ALSO VICARAGE FARM OF 170 ACRES (let), 140 ACRES FARMLAND (let), VILLAGE HOUSES AND COTTAGES (SEVERAL WITH POSSESSION), IN ALL

715 ACRES

FOR SALE BY AUCTION AT AN EARLY DATE (unless previously sold)

Vendors' Solicitors: Messrs. LEE & PEMBERTONS, 46, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2.
Auctioneers: Messrs. WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

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15 and 16, STATION APPROACH,
NORTHWOOD

MANDLEY & SPARROW

AND AT WATFORD RADLETT BUSHEY ST. ALBANS HATFIELD

NORTHWOOD
709 and 2822

By direction of the Exors. of the late Thomas Lilley, Esq.

ASHBURNHAM, WATFORD ROAD, NORTHWOOD

Entrance hall, lounge hall, drawing room, dining room, billiard room, cloakrooms, 5 principal and 3 secondary bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

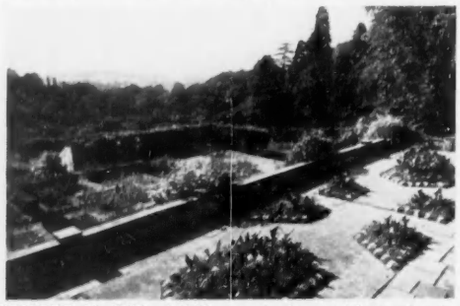
SELF-CONTAINED STAFF QUARTERS
SEPARATE GARAGE BLOCK FOR 3-4 CARS

Greenhouse, outbuildings. Hard and grass tennis courts. Paddock. Pleasure gardens, in all about

FOUR ACRES

Vacant Possession upon completion.

ADMIRABLY SUITED FOR USE AS A VERY LUXURIOUS PRIVATE HOUSE OR FOR CONVERSION OR OTHER PURPOSES



To be SOLD BY AUCTION at the NORTHWOOD HOTEL, NORTHWOOD, on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1956, at 5.30 p.m. (unless sold previously by Private Treaty)

Particulars from the Auctioneers: 16, Station Approach, Northwood and Branches. Solicitors: Messrs. LOVELL, WHITE & KING, 1, Serjeants Inn, Fleet Street, E.C.4.

DORKING (Tel. 2212)
EFFINGHAM (Tel. Bookham 2801)
BOOKHAM (Tel. 2744)

CUBITT & WEST

HASLEMERE (Tel. 680)
FARNHAM (Tel. 5261)
HINDHEAD (Tel. 63)

HASLEMERE—SURREY

Enjoying panoramic views yet close to town centre.
Within 10 minutes' walk of station.

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED RESIDENCE. Compact and easily run with hall, cloakroom, lounge (27 ft. by 18 ft.), dining room, 5 beds., bathroom, kitchen with Aga, 2 garages. Good garden. *All main services.* **For sale by private treaty or AUCTION on NOVEMBER 22**

CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office. (H.844)

WITH SOUTHERN ASPECT

OVER HINDHEAD GOLF COURSE. 4½ miles from Haslemere Main Line Station.

DISTINCTIVE BUNGALOW RESIDENCE standing in a secluded walled garden in magnificent position with gate to 3rd fairway. Hall, 4 good rooms, bathroom, kitchen and self-contained staff flat of 3 rooms. Complete central heating. Built-in garage. Grounds of ¾ **ACRE.** *Main services.* **For sale by private treaty or AUCTION on NOVEMBER 22**

CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office. (H.843)

LOVELY OLD FARMHOUSE

In perfect country setting.

IN SURREY GREEN BELT

3 recep. rooms, 5 beds., kitchen, maid's bedroom and sitting room, 3 bathrooms. *Main services.* Garage 3 cars. *Complete central heating.* Paddock and farmland with stream, in all nearly **12 ACRES**

PRICE £9,250 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: CUBITT & WEST, Dorking Office. (D.601)

CROWE, BATES & WEEKES

183, HIGH STREET, GUILDFORD (Tel. 2864-5), and at CRANLEIGH (Tel. 200).

MERROW DOWNS, NEAR GUILDFORD

Few minutes from Golf Course, Church and local shops. Close to Newlands Corner. 2 miles from Guildford with excellent bus service.

ATTRACTIVE SMALL MODERN HOUSE Hall, cloakroom, 2 reception, loggia, 4 bedrooms (2 with cupboards), bathroom. Part central heating. Main services. Garage. Nice small garden.

REASONABLE OFFER REQUIRED

BRAMLEY, SOUTH OF GUILDFORD

Pretty position near lovely country, few minutes local station with connections Guildford, daily reach of town. Close girls' school and golf.

WELL APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE. Cloaks, hall and 2 reception with oak floors, loggia, kitchen with Agamatic, 3 good bedrooms, good bathroom. Large garage. Lovely garden.

£4,950 FREEHOLD

A NEW HOUSE IN SAME ROAD JUST COMPLETED

4 bedrooms. FULL CENTRAL HEATING.

£4,750 FREEHOLD

BRACKETT & SONS

27-29, HIGH STREET, TUNBRIDGE WELLS. Tel. 1153—2 lines.

BELCAIRE, 33, CONNAUGHT WAY, TUNBRIDGE WELLS

A most attractive detached residence conveniently arranged on 2 floors. 2 receps., 4 beds., bathroom, kitchen offices. Garage. Well designed garden and grounds of about ½ **ACRE. FREEHOLD.**

To be sold by public auction on November 9 (unless previously sold) (in conjunction with Messrs. Stanley Parks and Brown).

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS

In a high and glorious position, commanding fine views. An excellent residence being converted into 2 really attractive self-contained maisonettes which will contain 2 reception rooms, 3-4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and domestic offices.

PRICE £3,950 FREEHOLD

including a garage and small garden. Further details and plans from the estate agents as above.

JUST IN THE MARKET

A remarkably attractive property situated in Kent between Penshurst and Groombridge and within a few miles of Tunbridge Wells. The house was built about 1929, has picturesque elevations in the Kentish farmhouse style. Lounge hall, 3 receps., 5 main bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 attic rooms and playroom in roof space, and usual domestic offices. Main electric light. Complete central heating. Garage. Garden and grounds in all about **3½ ACRES. Vacant Possession. Strongly recommended. FREEHOLD.** (Fo.42932)

EAST SUSSEX

Something out of the ordinary, worth immediate inspection. Exceptional country residence, full of character and interesting features. Situated in a splendid position 400 ft. above sea level. 3 receps., 4 beds., 2 baths. Playroom and domestic offices. Garage. Grounds of about **4½ ACRES** beautifully laid out with terraced gardens, lawns, kitchen garden, paddock, orchard, etc. **FREEHOLD £7,500. Vacant Possession.** (Fo.42935)

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R. C. KNIGHT & SONS

130, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1.

FAVOURITE

WOODBRIDGE DISTRICT OF SUFFOLK

With excellent sporting facilities including sailing from own private hard.

AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-APPOINTED CHARACTER RESIDENCE

standing in sheltered but elevated position, commanding beautiful views over River Deben.

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, labour-saving domestic offices, 8 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Central heating. Every convenience.

GARAGES AND OTHER USEFUL OUTBUILDINGS. 3 COTTAGES

Beautiful but inexpensive gardens, kitchen garden, woodland and paddock, in all

ABOUT 20 ACRES. (More or less land by arrangement)

FOR SALE WITH IMMEDIATE VACANT POSSESSION

Full details from: R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, Old Town Hall, Bury St. Edmunds, Tel. 135, or Market Place, Stowmarket, Tel. 3845, or as above.

WEST SUFFOLK

2 miles from the Cathedral town of Bury St. Edmunds and only 1/2 miles from Newmarket. Golf at Bury St. Edmunds, Flempton and Royal Worlington. Hunting with the Suffolk Fox Hounds.

MODERNISED GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

5 principal bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 secondary or staff bedrooms, 2 rec. rooms and panelled dining room, modern kitchen with all services.

Usual outbuildings with double garage. Attractive grounds including tennis court and orchard.

IN ALL 2½ ACRES.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION. £4,950 FREEHOLD

Further details: H. C. WOLTON & SON, Whiting Street, Bury St. Edmunds or R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, Old Town Hall, Bury St. Edmunds, Tel. 135, or as above.

And at NORWICH, STOWMARKET, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, CAMBRIDGE, HADLEIGH and HOLT

20, HIGH STREET, HASLEMERE (Tel. 1207-8)

H. B. BAVERSTOCK & SON

ESTATE OFFICES, GODALMING (Tel. 1722, 5 lines)

4, CASTLE STREET, FARNHAM (Tel. 5274-5)

FARNHAM, SURREY

Favoured locality, adjacent to the Castle and Park. 5 minutes walk to town centre. Station (electric to Waterloo) under 1 mile.

COMMANDING MAGNIFICENT SOUTHERLY AND WESTERLY VIEWS

A VERY FINE QUEEN ANNE STYLE RESIDENCE

6 BEDROOMS, 2 DRESSING ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, SUN LOGGIA AND BALCONY, CLOAKROOM

Complete domestic offices including staff sitting room.

Central heating by automatic Janitor.

All main services. Power points.

DOUBLE GARAGE. ATTRACTIVE BRICK AND TILED SUMMERHOUSE

Delightful gardens and grounds, undoubtedly an exceptional feature, in all approximately **3 ACRES.**

FREEHOLD £12,500, WITH POSSESSION

Farnham Office.

Established 1870

WM. WOOD, SON & GARDNER

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX and HORLEY, SURREY

Tel. Crawley 1 (three lines) and Horley 3

SURREY—SUSSEX BORDER

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSE AND 40 ACRES

In a wonderful rural position on high ground.

2 RECEPTION ROOMS, 4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, KITCHEN AND SEPARATE SUITE OF 3 ROOMS

GOOD OUTBUILDINGS

40 ACRES PASTURE

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, POWER AND WATER. MODERN DRAINAGE

PRICE £8,500 FREEHOLD

SUSSEX

4 miles East Horsham amidst delightful country with uninterrupted panoramic views.

ATTRACTIVE FAMILY RESIDENCE WITH 3 ACRES

Well maintained pleasure grounds.

6 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, KITCHEN

STAFF WING

GOOD OUTBUILDINGS

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, POWER AND WATER. SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE CENTRAL HEATING

PRICE £9,500 FREEHOLD

CLARKE, GAMMON & EMERYS

GUILDFORD, GODALMING, HINDHEAD & LIPHOOK

SURREY—HAMPSHIRE BORDERS

In lovely countryside, close to bus route. Main line station 5 miles (Waterloo 1 hour).

MODERN COMPACT FAMILY HOUSE IN SECLUDED TIMBERED GROUNDS.

Completely on two floors.

Hall with cloakroom, lounge (24 ft. by 17 ft.) and 2 other reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, domestic offices with Aga cooker and Trianco boiler. Staff quarters.

Main water and electricity. Central heating, modern drainage.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS

Delightful timbered grounds abutting National Trust Land.

IN ALL ABOUT 4½ ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £7,000. VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

Full particulars from Owner's Agents at 71, High Street, Guildford (Tel. 2266-7-8), Beacon Hill Estate Office, Hindhead (Tel. 94), and at Godalming and Liphook.

UNSPOILT NORTH NORFOLK

A Perfectly Appointed Modernised

18TH CENTURY RESIDENCE

Set amidst own grounds of 8 acres with Service Bungalow. 3½ miles from Sheringham, 5 miles Holt and 24 from Norwich.

Hall with cloakroom, 2 well-proportioned reception rooms, breakfast room, modern kitchen, 4 splendid bedrooms, bathroom.

Main electricity, own water by electric pump.

GARAGE

2 stall stables, delightful gardens, 2-acre orchard, 2 enclosures of arable land, paddock, etc. In all about

8 ACRES

£5,500. VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE

Particulars from RONALD A. KNIGHTS & COMPANY, Waterbank Road, Sheringham (Tel. 431) or NEALE & ALLDRIDGE AND FOSTER & PARTNERS, 50, Newhall Street, Birmingham, 3 (Tel. CENtral 2086-9).

WOKING
CHOBHAM
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NEW HAW
WALTON-ON-THAMES

MANN & CO. AND EWBANK & CO.

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WEYBRIDGE
THAMES DITTON
ESHER
COBHAM
GUILDFORD

FAIRMILE ESTATE, COBHAM

Waterloo 32 mins.

Charming Detached Freehold Residence

delightfully situated amid 2 acres of well-kept grounds. High healthy position on exclusive private estate. 5 bedrooms (h. and c.), 2 bathrooms, 3 excellent recep. rooms, ultra mod. kitchen, 2 garages.

Automatic gas central heating.

First-class order throughout.

£8,750 FREEHOLD

Cobham office: EWBANK & Co., 19, High Street (Tel. 47)

WEST SURREY

Waterloo 27 mins.

On very pleasant corner site

CHARMING MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE

4 bedrooms (2 h. and c.), boxroom, tiled bathroom, 26 ft. through lounge, dining room, study, tiled kitchen.

GARAGE. PRETTY SECLUDED GARDEN.

£5,250 FREEHOLD

Walton office: 38 High Street (Tel. 2331-2).

FIRST-CLASS NEIGHBOURHOOD

Waterloo 36 mins.

Delightfully situated 7 mins. walk West Byfleet station and shops.

Spaciously accommodated:
5 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, dining room, charming lounge/hall, cloakroom, good offices, garage. About ½ **ACRE** secluded, matured garden. Well maintained throughout.

£5,900 FREEHOLD. SOLE AGENTS.

(New Haw office: 315, Woodham Lane (Tel. Byfleet 2884).

IN COMPLETELY RURAL AND UNSPOILT SURROUNDINGS AT

PYRFORD

1½ miles from West Byfleet station.

4 bedrooms, bathroom, hall, cloakroom, 2-3 recep. rooms, sun loggia, 2 garages. **1¾ ACRES** genuinely secluded and easily maintained garden, including small area woodland.

Main electricity and water, modern drainage.

£6,250 FREEHOLD. SOLE AGENTS.

West Byfleet office: Station Approach. (Tel. 3288-9).

MODERN DETACHED HOUSE

THAMES DITTON

Close station, shopping centre.

4 bedrooms, tiled bathroom, sep. w.c., panelled hall, cloakroom, 2 recep. rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, scullery ("Leisure" sink unit), built-in garage. Large well-stocked garden. *All services.* Wood block flooring.

£4,950 FREEHOLD

(Thames Ditton office: SAWYER PIRIE, Winters Bridge, Tel. Emberbrook 2235).

HIGH PINE AREA, WEYBRIDGE

Compact and easily run modern house, in good order.

With pretty elevation, 5 mins. shops, buses, etc.

4 good bedrooms, bathroom, sep. w.c., 2 recep. rooms, large kitchen.

GARAGE. MATURED GARDEN. MAIN SERVICES.

Weybridge office: EWBANK & Co., 7, Baker Street, (Tel. 2323-5).

BOURNEMOUTH AND 15 BRANCH OFFICES

RUMSEY & RUMSEY

AND IN THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

FERNDOWN—DORSET

Residential area near championship course golf. 6 miles Bournemouth.

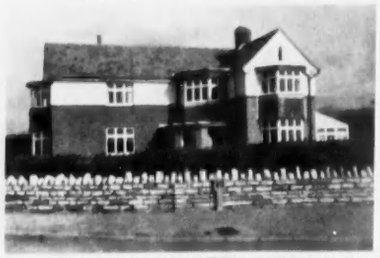
EXPENSIVELY APPOINTED MODERN LUXURY RESIDENCE. 3 rec., sun lounge, prin. suite and 3 other beds. (1 h. and c.), bath and offices. Main services, mod. drainage. Oil-fired cen. heating. 2 garages, stores, 3 greenhouses. Delightful garden and grounds. **1 ACRE.** All in first-class order. **FREEHOLD £7,500.**

Parley Office, Parley Cross, Ferndown, Dorset.

HAMPSHIRE COAST

BARTON ON SEA

Magnificent views to the Isle of Wight.



AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN MARINE RESIDENCE. Cloaks, 2 rec., kitchen, 4 beds. (2 h. and c.), bathroom, sep. w.c. All mains. Pt. cen. heating. Garage.

Good garden about ¾ **ACRE. FREEHOLD £5,000.**

HIGHCLIFFE

Few minutes sea front and shopping centre.

SEVEN ATTRACTIVE NEWLY ERECTED FLATS in two blocks, each comprising lounge-dining room, 2 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, sep. w.c. All mains. Garages available. **PRICES £2,500 and £2,650 on 99 years lease at £12 10s. p.a. ground rent.**

Apply, Country Dept., 111, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth (Tel. 7080).

By direction of the Executors.

KENILWORTH, WARWICKSHIRE

A CHARMING HOME IN DELIGHTFUL SURROUNDINGS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

This lovely Freehold Residence is totally enclosed by a landscape-style garden, enjoying complete seclusion.

Main aspect faces south-east. Rooms well lit and proportioned. Every modern convenience. Central heating and water softening. 3 principal bedrooms, 4 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Heated garage for 2 cars. Covered wash to garage. Stabling for 3 horses.

GARDENER'S COTTAGE

All main services.

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

Inquiries by letter only to:

EDWIN JAQUES & SONS, 45, NEWHALL ST., BIRMINGHAM, 3

ACHNAGAIRN HOUSE, KIRKHILL, INVERNESS-SHIRE

FOR SALE: ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE NEAR INVERNESS WITH SOUTHERN EXPOSURE.

The grounds (chiefly woodlands) extend to 44 acres and include lawns, orchard, walled vegetable and flower garden and glasshouses.

The MAIN HOUSE, in excellent condition, comprises:

GROUND FLOOR, porch and entrance hall, dining room and 3 large reception rooms, other smaller rooms, ballroom (main rooms oak-panelled). Kitchen premises at rear.

FIRST FLOOR, 7 bedrooms (3 with dressing rooms), 3 bathrooms. A number of staff rooms.

SECOND FLOOR, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and staffrooms. Central heating throughout.

Suitable outhouses and garages. Gardener's house and 3 other small houses.

Further particulars from **INNES & MACKAY, Solicitors, 19, Union Street, Inverness.**

MAIDENHEAD
SUNNINGDALE

GIDDY & GIDDY

WINDSOR, SLOUGH
GERRARDS CROSS

RURAL BERKSHIRE

Ascot 3 miles. Windsor and Maidenhead 6 miles.

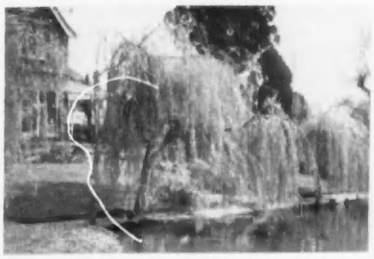
A GENUINE 15th-CENTURY HOUSE with 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, etc. Detached outbuildings with garage and barn. Pleasure gardens, orchard and paddocks, about **3½ ACRES**

AUCTION NOVEMBER 7, unless sold before.

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Maidenhead (Tel. 53).

WRAYSBURY, BUCKS

On a quiet backwater of the Thames.



WITH WELL PROPORTIONED ROOMS 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, etc. Garage and summerhouse. **½-ACRE** of lovely gardens with 90-ft. RIVER FRONTAGE.

All offers considered before AUCTION NOVEMBER 7.

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, 52, High Street, Windsor (Tel. 73).

ADJOINING
MAIDENHEAD GOLF COURSE

In a unique position high up at the end of a cul-de-sac with a gate to the Golf Course.

A MODERN HOUSE WITH GOOD VIEWS SOUTHWARDS. 5 bedrooms, boxroom, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, well-equipped kitchen. Garage and greenhouse. Small garden.

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CHESSHIRE, GIBSON & CO.

Chartered Surveyors, Auctioneers and Land Agents.
21, WATERLOO STREET, BIRMINGHAM 2 (Tel.: MIDland 2451).

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

HEREFORDSHIRE

Hereford 16 miles, Ludlow 9 miles, Leominster 5 miles.

THE VALUABLE AGRICULTURAL ESTATE KNOWN AS

CROFT CASTLE ESTATE

comprising the fully modernised historic residence:

CROFT CASTLE

containing briefly 5 reception rooms, study, 14 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, compact domestic offices. Together with gardens, grounds and parkland with possession;

also

HOME FARM, PARK FARM, COMMON LAND, 6 COTTAGES, WOODLANDS (let to the Forestry Commission) total income about **£500 PER ANNUM.**

VERY VALUABLE MATURE WOODLANDS IN HAND

TOTAL AREA ABOUT 1,360 ACRES

For further particulars apply to the Agents, as above.

MOLDRAM CLARKE & EDGLEY

Chartered Surveyors.
155/6, HIGH STREET, GUILDFORD. AND AT WOKING

WOKING, SURREY

AN ATTRACTIVE DETACHED BUNGALOW built in 1954

Conveniently situate in a quiet road midst semi-rural surroundings yet only a mile from main line station (Waterloo 28 minutes).

THE WELL ARRANGED ACCOMMODATION comprises wide entrance porch, hall, double aspect lounge, kitchen (13 ft. by 10 ft.), 3 bedrooms, part-tiled bathroom, separate w.c. Pleasant garden with garage space. ALL MAIN SERVICES.

£3,450 FREEHOLD

Woking Office (Tel. 3419).

MERROW, NEAR GUILDFORD

On a most sought-after private residential estate, adjoining Merrow Downs and Golf Course.

A MODERN DETACHED HOUSE OF QUALITY

COMPRISING entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge (20 ft. by 15 ft. 6 in.), dining room (16 ft. by 14 ft.), sun lounge, large kitchen, 4/6 bedrooms (all h. and c.), tiled bathroom, separate w.c. Oak floors to ground floor. CENTRAL HEATING. Built-on garage. Beautiful garden of ¾ **ACRE**

£6,750 FREEHOLD

Guildford Office (Tel. 67281).

PROPERTIES IN TOWN

W. A. ELLIS

174, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.3. KENSINGTON 2425.

SPECIALISING IN TOWN HOUSES AND FLATS, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREAS OF KNIGHTSBRIDGE, S. KENSINGTON, CHELSEA, CAMPDEN HILL, HOLLAND PARK AND WESTMINSTER

BROMPTON SQUARE, S.W.3

A delightful Georgian character house in quiet, very convenient position overlooking gardens at front and rear. Accommodation comprises 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 double reception rooms and domestic quarters. Brick-built **Double Garage and Private Garden.** For sale Freehold. **PRICE £15,000.**

PELHAM PLACE, S.W.7

In a favourite, quiet position close to South Kensington station. An exceptionally attractive white stucco-fronted Regency house with private garden at front and rear. A low-built, easily run house with bright, open outlook. Accommodation comprises double drawing room, dining room, 5 bedrooms, bathroom and domestic quarters, etc. **Charming Garden.** For sale leasehold just under 30 years at £120 p.a. **PRICE £7,500.**

YEOMANS ROW, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.3

A beautifully kept, labour-saving modern non-basement house with excellent rooms and ideal situation in quiet cul-de-sac close to Harrods. Accommodation comprises double reception room, study, 4 bedrooms and maid's room, excellent kitchen, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom, etc. Courtyard garden. **Central heating.** Leasehold about 67 years. **PRICE £12,500.**

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

In favourite quiet street, close to the Park, **beautifully modernised and decorated Period house** comprising double drawing room, dining room, 4-5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, etc. all beautifully fitted and excellently equipped with cupboards. Small garden. **Ready to walk into. FREEHOLD £11,000.**

FLATS AND MAISONETTES

CADOGAN SQUARE, S.W.1. In delightful quiet position, **two exceptional Luxury Maisonettes** at the top of the building with lift, central heating, constant hot water, porterage, garage accommodation, etc. Comprising 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 or 2 lovely reception rooms, kitchen, etc. Sunny uninterrupted outlook. Long leases. **PRICES £7,500 and £8,000.**

OVINGTON GARDENS, S.W.3. 2 fine modern Maisonettes to be let **without premiums,** situated on the third and fourth floors of a new conversion with lift, porterage, etc. each comprising 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large drawing room, dining room, kitchen, etc. To be let on new leases at rentals of **£570 and £580 p.a.** exclusive. Rates about £80 p.a.

FURNISHED LETTINGS EFFECTED

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO.

6, GROSVENOR STREET, W.1. Mayfair 8191 (12 lines).

MAYFAIR

WITHOUT EXAGGERATION THE FINEST FLAT IN THE WEST END

High up in luxury block facing Square gardens.

PILLARED LOUNGE HALL, DRAWING ROOM, DINING ROOM, STUDY, 4 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS, 3 PRINCIPAL BATHROOMS, 4 STAFF BEDROOMS AND BATHROOM.

FULLY EQUIPPED MODERN KITCHEN.

The interior decoration and furnishings having been carried out regardless of cost, the flat is in impeccable condition throughout.

FULL CENTRAL HEATING. CONSTANT HOT WATER. LIFTS. PORTERAGE.

LONG LEASE for disposal together with entire contents.

Full details from the SOLE AGENTS as above.

TIPPING & CO. Joint Agents HUGHESDON & HINDS

56, Queensway, W.2. BAY. 6686/7/8 — **4, Abingdon Road, W.8. WES. 4833**

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PORCHESTER TERRACE, W.2.

NON-BASEMENT. 2 reception rooms, 4-5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Garage. Garden. Central heating throughout. 99-year leases and low ground rent. Mortgages available.

PRICES FROM £8,650 £9,250

classified properties

FOR SALE

BERKSHIRE. Luxuriously equipped 5-roomed Small House in lovely village on Reading bus route. £4,250. Tel.: Pangbourne 3333.

BINFIELD. Genuine old-world cottage-style Residence (200 years old) in lovely order and condition, set in delightful gardens with own pond and putting course and 2¼ acres. 4 bed., 2 bath., 3 rec., Aga. Double garage. Main e.l. Anyone seeking peace and seclusion in country surroundings yet only 55 mins. Waterloo must see this delightful property. Price Freehold £10,000.—Apply: PENNICOTT & CO., Bracknell (Tel. 735).

CHARMING Detached Brick and Tiled Cottage, outskirts village, 4 miles Basingstoke. 3 bedrooms, dining room, large lounge, kitchen, bathroom, sep. w.c. Built-on garage. Attractive private walled gardens. Barn. Main services. £3,575 Freehold or near offer.—PARNELL JORDY & HARVEY, Basingstoke (Tel. 2070).

COMPACT GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENCE at Malton, Yorkshire. Modernised Detached Cottage, long and low, on 2 floors only. Privacy to easy garden with additional ¼ acre paddock. Rural surroundings yet access to bus and rail transport, etc. Modern central heating. Comfortable rooms with character. 3 reception rms., 5 bedrms. and dressing rm., 2 bthrms., 4 toilets. Mains electricity, gas and water, satisfactory drainage. 6 or more loose boxes, easy access to Wold Gallops and Middleton Hunt. First time in open market. £5,000 region.—MAWSON & WALTON, 13, Greek St., Leeds 1.

CONVENIENT Basingstoke/Newbury/Reading. Charming small Country Residence recently modernised throughout. Hall, 3 reception, modern kitchen, utility room, 5 bedrooms, 3 with basins, 2 boxrooms, bathroom, 2 w.c.s, 2 garages, stable, vinery, etc. Services. Latest automatic central heating throughout. Recommended £5,750 Freehold.—PARNELL JORDY & HARVEY, Basingstoke (Tel. 2070).

EAST KENT Country Property. 18th-century 5-bed. Det. House. Outbuildings. Electricity, water. 2¼ acres apples, pears and kit. garden. Sailing, golf, cricket available.—WORSFOLD & HAYWARD, 3, Market Square, Dover.

IN QUIET RURAL SETTING, 5 miles S. of Colchester. Detached Cottage with 1 acre. Lounge, din. rm., scull., bthrm., w.c., 2 bedrms. Now being renovated, soundly constructed. £1,000.—WAVENEY PROPERTIES, LTD., Hythe Hill, Colchester (Tel. 6470).

IRELAND. BATTERSBY & CO., Estate Agents (Est. 1815), F.A.I., Westmoreland Street, Dublin. Sporting properties and Residential Farms available for sale or letting.

IVY HATCH, NR. SEVENOAKS, KENT. 5 minutes buses, London 30 minutes (train). An exceptionally attractive Country Cottage Residence of character in lovely woodland setting. Modernised throughout, having 4 bedrooms, 2-3 spacious reception rooms, hall and cloakroom, excellent kitchen, luxury bathroom. Large garage. Completely secluded grounds of 1 acre, easily maintained. £5,750 Freehold (Tel.: Plaxtol 426).

KENT HILLS. 15 miles London. Overlooking the beautiful Shoreham Valley, a perfectly secluded and enchanting Bungalow in 2½ acres productive soft fruit orchard. Prime varieties of soft fruit now producing good income. Admirable outbuildings, valuable equipment included, private drive approach. £5,000 Fhld. all in.—Sole Agents: R. W. INNES & CO., 247, High Street, Orpington.—Tel.: Orpington 21076 (3 lines).

KENT. Well-built House, high ground, 4 bed., 2 sitting rooms. 3 acres. Profit orchard. Near station, buses, village. London 25 miles.—Box 349.

KIRBY MUXLOE, LEICS. Favoured rural area, within 5 miles of city centre, excellent daily bus services. Advertiser (business man) transferred to London. All services. 3 beds. ½ acre garden, large garage. A rare bargain at £3,700. Substantial mortgage available.—Box 352.

NORTH CORNWALL. "Bishop's Hill," Polzeath. Fine Detached Residence. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, galleried dining hall, lounge, study, sun loggia, usual offices. Main services. Superb position overlooking Atlantic and by finest surf bathing beach in Cornwall. ¾-acre garden. £5,650 Freehold.—Details: BUTTON, MENHENITT & MUTTON, LTD., Auctioneers, Wadebridge, N. Cornwall.

S. CORNWALL. Fine, modern Country House near Falmouth. Large light rooms. Southerly aspect. Excellent appointments. 6 beds., 4 rec., 2 baths. Central heating. Large, well-stocked garden of 3 acres. Double garage. KNUCKEY & LUMBY, Chartered Auctioneers, Falmouth.

SHERINGHAM. Quiet Cliff Cottage, facing S. Elec. light. Extensive views. Large lounge, dining room, 2 beds., bath, kitchenette. Revolving hut. Garage. £2,300.—Agent: A. E. BARRETT, Sheringham, Norfolk.

SHROPSHIRE. For Sale with Vacant Possession by private treaty on the direction of Lt.-Col. R. V. Jenkins, Charlton Hill House, 7 miles south-east of Shrewsbury. Charming 17th-century Country House, compact and fully modernised, in good order, enjoying magnificent views of the Shropshire and Welsh hills, and containing 4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, domestic offices. Garages and outbuildings. 1 service cottage. Grid electric current, adequate water supply. Drainage to septic tank. Tennis court, lawns and well laid-out grounds and kitchen garden, the whole extending to 4 acres.—For further particulars and order to view apply: BURD & EVANS, Chartered Surveyors, School Gardens, Shrewsbury (Tel. 4058-9).

SMALL GEORGIAN COUNTRY HOUSE of character, 12 miles south of Bath, with 3 rec., kitchen with Aga, cloaks, etc., 5 bedrooms, bath. Main services. Beautiful garden and woodlands, swimming pool and trout stream. £4,950 or close offer. Further land and accommodation available.—Illus. partics. from COOPER AND TANNER, LTD., 14, North Parade, Frome, Somerset.

SOMERSET. In the charming village of Bicknoller, close to the county town of Taunton. A Detached Country Residence in its own grounds of 1¼ acres. Well-proportioned rooms. Mains water and electricity. Septic tank drainage. Price £4,000. Details from W. H. PALMER & SONS, 14, Castle Street, Bridgwater.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE. TROCHRAGUE ESTATE. For Sale. The Mansion House and policies of Trochrague, extending to about 30 acres, situated in Valley of River Girvan 2 miles from Girvan on bus route. Suitable for private residence, school or institution. The house is presently divided but could easily be reconverted into one residence. The small portion contains 8 apartments, 2 bathrooms and kitchen, and the main residence consists of entrance hall, 3 cloakrooms, 4 public rooms, 9 bedrooms (4 with dressing rooms), 4 bathrooms, office accommodation and commodious kitchen premises. The policies are beautifully wooded, and include flower garden, lawns, hard tennis court and 3 grass parks (one subject to lease). Garage for 5 cars. Mains electricity and water. Central heating throughout. Two service cottages, including lodge with ample accommodation and modern services. About 95 acres of adjoining agricultural land, presently tenanted, and 10½ acres of woodlands are also available for sale. Entry by arrangement.—For further particulars and cards to view apply to Messrs. MILLER, THOMPSON, HENDERSON & CO., Solicitors, 190, St. Vincent Street, Glasgow (Tel.: Central 9005).

DIRECTORY ESTATE AGENTS, AUCTIONEERS, SURVEYORS AND VALUERS

A PROPERTY IN SOUTH BUCKS? Consult HETHERINGTON & SECRETT, F.A.I., Gerrards Cross (Tel. 2519) Beaconsfield (Tel. 1054).

AMERSHAM, GREAT MISSENDEN, CHESHAM. The lovely Chiltern country.—PRETTY & ELLIS, Amersham (Tel. 27), Gt. Missenden (2363), and Chesham (16).

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DEVON and S.W. COUNTIES. For selected list of PROPERTIES.—RIPPON BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I., Exeter (Tel. 59378).

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ESSEX AND SUFFOLK. Country Properties and Farms.—C. M. STANFORD AND SON, Colchester (Tel. 3165, 4 lines).

EXETER AND DISTRICT.—ANDREW REDFERN, F.A.I., 31, Princesshay, Exeter.

FOR Residential Properties in the glorious Buckinghamshire Chilterns, consult: SWANNELL & SLY, Amersham (Tel. 73).

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Emperor, primrose petals, yellow trumpet	2/6	25/-
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La Noire, the black tulip	2/3	20/-
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Fireside, yellow, flamed red	2/3	20/-
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Princess Margaret Rose, yellow, edged scarlet	2/3	20/-
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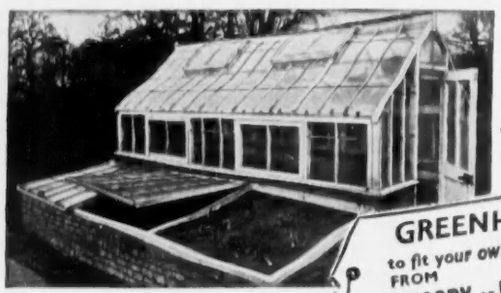

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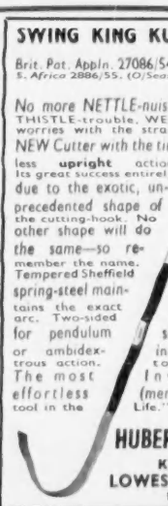

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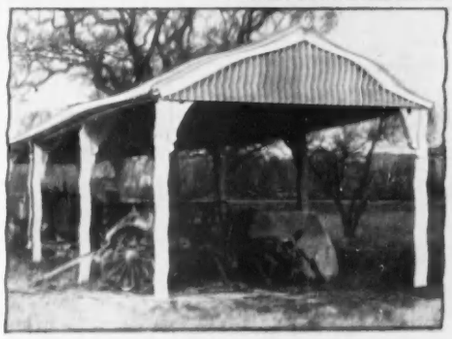

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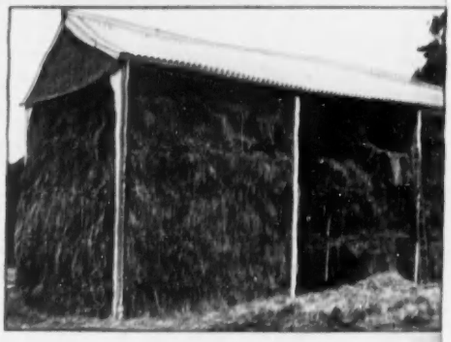

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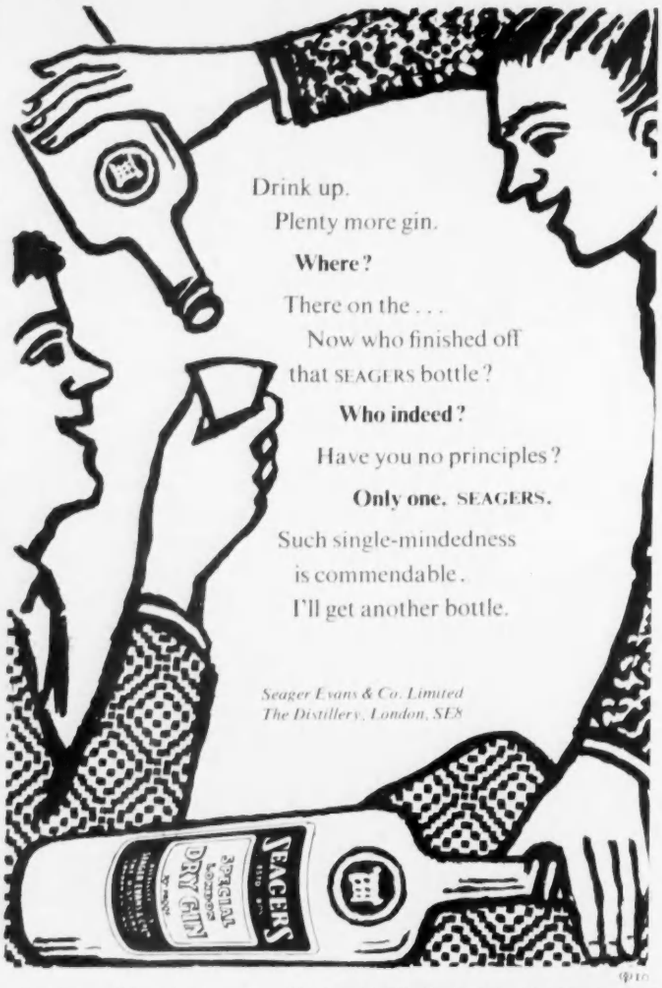

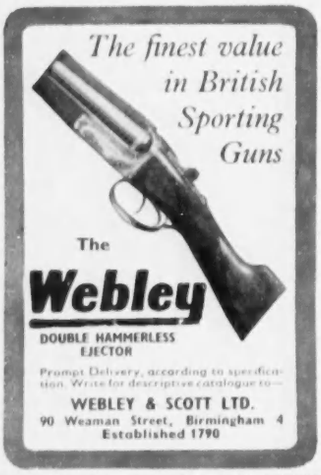

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Please send me information about Bermuda and how to get there.

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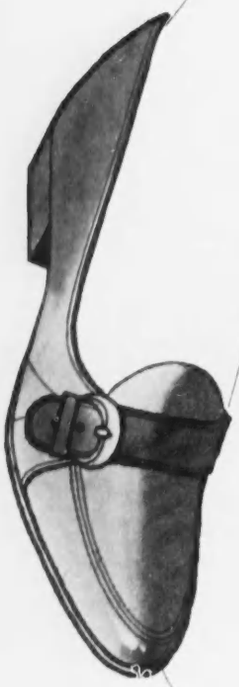
The Classic Monk Shoe in two versions...

Now you can choose the heel height you prefer. Both are extremely comfortable. Wholehearted walking casuals as sleek as these are much sought after. The designs are ours exclusively, and carried out with superb craftsmanship and fine attention to detail. Both are medium-weight, and the soles are leather.



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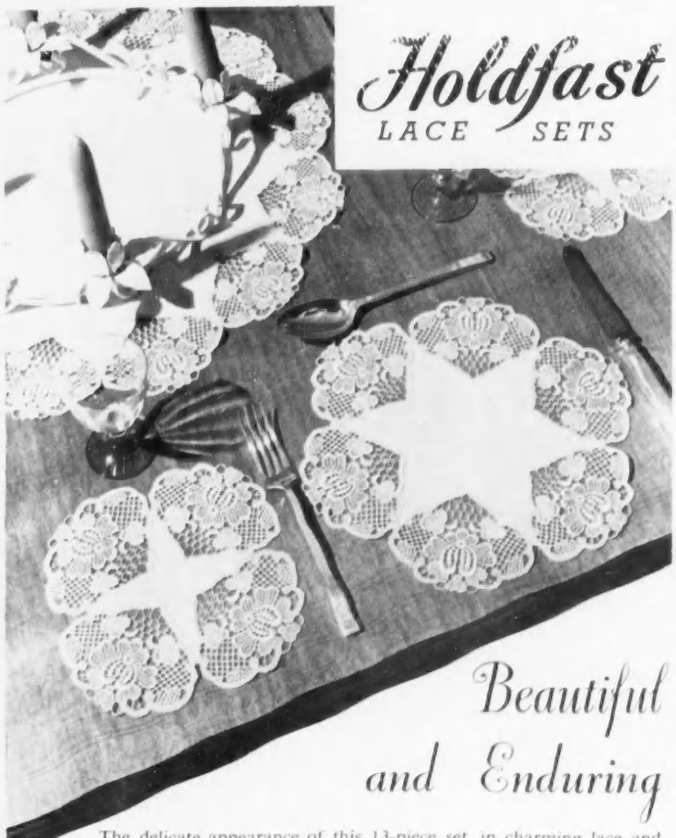

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Inventions in Guinness Time... 5

THE

GRAMOPHONE

When Father's new phonograph stood in the hall,
He said, with forgivable pride,
"Just think! We'll hear Patti sing Brahms and Scarlatti
Without ever stepping outside!"

But Grandfather said, "It's a shame
To give new-fangled things such acclaim;
That's what you're wrong about—
I make a song about
Guinness—that's always the same!"

"But see," exclaimed Father, "the elegant horn,
The cylinders coated with wax.
With the latest improvements they last a whole movement
Twice over, including the cracks."

But Grandfather muttered, "My hat!
It's no good to me, and that's flat!
If *I'm* to last longer,
I'll have to be stronger—
I need Guinness Goodness for that!"

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"Mark my words, we'll have no more privacy."

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXX No. 3119 OCTOBER 25, 1956

Yevonde

LADY FRANCES HAY

Lady Frances Hay, youngest daughter of the Marquess of Tweeddale and of the late Marchioness of Tweeddale, is to be married on Saturday to Mr. Nigel Pearson, only son of Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., and of the late the Hon. Mrs. C. W. Hordern

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THE ARTS IN THE AUTOMATION AGE

HAVING regard to the nation's present economic circumstances, it was inevitable that the Arts Council's report, *The First Ten Years*, would be viewed with critical eyes. For here is a body which, for ten years, has been subsidised by public funds telling of its activities in pursuit of its object of preserving and improving the standard of performance in the various arts—an object which is not regarded by everyone as suitable for promotion at the expense of the taxpayer. Yet, far from presenting this account of its stewardship in an apologetic or supplicatory way, the Council tells its story with a fine pride and does not hesitate to claim that it deserves substantially more support from public funds.

Immediately after the war the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir John Anderson (no profligate dispenser of Treasury monies), envisaged the creation of this Council to continue permanently the work of a temporary war-time organisation set up to prevent "a black-out of the arts." The new Council interpreted its duty, imposed by a Royal Charter, as one of supporting a limited number of institutions where exemplary standards might be developed. The most conspicuous example of this policy in action is the creation at Covent Garden of a national theatre for opera and ballet. Among many other activities, the Council for some years took the living drama to theatre-less towns, even sending out a mobile theatre which made one-night stands. To-day, it makes a more economical use of its money by organising coach parties to take people into towns from the surrounding villages to see repertory theatres, a method that produces larger audiences and, consequently, better box-office revenue.

Could a more intensive diffusion of the enlightening influences of the arts be secured if the Council were drastically to reduce its spending on London enterprises in favour of more country activities? The answer is that its subsidy does not take the form of a simple, over-all payment. Each project is assessed separately by the Treasury, and if a London project were abandoned, the money required for it would not be available to spend elsewhere. So the annual grants are variable. In 1955/56 the total subsidy was £820,000. This amount is augmented by what is spent by local authorities under an Act of 1948, which permits them to levy a rate (up to 4½d. in Scotland and 6d. elsewhere) for purposes similar to those of the Arts Council. Altogether £1,000,000 a year is expended by the Council and local authorities on public patronage of opera, ballet, music, drama and touring art exhibitions. The Council considers that, during the next ten years, this expenditure should be raised to £2,500,000, "if something substantial and permanent is to be built on the basis of the past ten years."

Although, as the Government spokesmen have said, this country's economy is balanced on a knife edge, the fact remains that the nation was never more prosperous than it is to-day. The first fact makes necessary the most critical scrutiny of all public expenditure. The second dictates vigilance lest material prosperity induces neglect of spiritual values. As Sir Richard Livingstone said recently at Oxford, there is need to teach "the philosophy of the first rate" to improve human character; and the report of the Arts Council conveys a warning that, in this age, mass media may establish standards well described as "a Sahara of mechanised mediocrity." The Council makes out a good case for the increased subsidy for which it asks.

HONOUR TO NASH

BY the setting of his bust, carved in genuine Portland stone, in the portico of All Souls', Langham-place, so that it looks down the Regent-street that his empirical genius created, John Nash has been honoured as has no other English architect, even Wren. The tribute, initiated by the Marylebone Society and the L.C.C., is deserved in that his contribution to the scenery of London, despite his shortcomings, and the disappearance of so much of it, is still the biggest made by any architect since Wren. It is true to say that no other architect possessed the range of qualities to bring off that achievement: to apply the principles of visual design to a grand conception for the replanning of Regency London, by which a great new commercial thoroughfare linked a magnificent residential quarter and park to the new royal palace. The financial and technical shifts to which he had recourse in doing so, supported as he was in the main only by an unpopular monarch, might well have paralysed a less resilient and ingenious character. Sketchy as are most of his designs, many of them (notably the Regent's Park terraces) carried out by builders whom he was unable to supervise, with restricted resources and perishable materials, it was inevitable that his honesty should have been questioned. Yet successive investigations never succeeded in disproving it.

OCTOBER ADMIRAL

POISED, fierce and fearless on my hand
You rest, a heart-beat's count and stand
Serene and immobile.
While all around in sun-soaked dreams
Summer's last largesse still gleams
With farewell smile.

How will you fare when skies are dark,
When frost and wind have left their mark?
How choose?
So feather-weight a man-of-war
To plot a course that leads so far!
Brave Sailor, find a homing star
To guide your autumn cruise!

DOROTHY JACOB.

EGG RISKS

A GRAVE menace to health through the import of frozen eggs has been reported by Dr. K. E. A. Hughes, Director of the Portsmouth Public Health Laboratory. Many samples, he told the Royal Society of Health last week, have been found to contain germs which might lead to food poisoning; 44 per cent. of those examined at Portsmouth were infected. This is a serious matter of considerable interest to poultry farmers in this country. The Ministry of Health evidently knows about the danger, and there has been special sampling of frozen eggs arriving in Britain. The trouble comes, it seems, with eggs that have been broken down and canned in bulk for use by the baking and confectionery trades. These cans of frozen eggs are not bought direct by housewives, but the material is used in food which we eat every day. Surely the matter must be pursued further to identify the sources from which this infected egg material comes. Here is a parallel case with the importation of chilled and frozen beef from South America which brings in the germs of foot-and-mouth disease.

OSPREYS IN SCOTLAND

THERE is hope that before long the osprey will be restored to the list of birds that regularly breed in Britain. A hundred or more years ago it nested in a good many parts of Scotland. Then, owing partly to shooting and egg-collecting, its numbers gradually dwindled. At the beginning of the present century only two or three pairs remained, and the last of these to nest apparently did so during the first World War. In between the wars an attempt was made to reintroduce the birds artificially, but this met with no lasting success. During recent years increasing numbers of ospreys have been seen at lochs and other waters during the spring migration, and several have lingered until the summer. Whether or not this means that the birds are overspilling from their Continental haunts, it has aroused hopes that some might settle down and breed in Scotland. At least two pairs have in fact attempted to do so in the past ten years. In one locality the birds nested both last year and this year, but, for one reason or another, their efforts came to nothing. Any ospreys that try to breed in Scotland next year must be given every encouragement to do so successfully, and this can be done only by the full co-operation of the public at large.

COTTAGE IMPROVEMENT

A MISSION to convert housing authorities to make more use of the government grants under the 1954 Act for the improvement and conversion of cottages has been undertaken by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings through a series of conferences to be held in historic country houses. The first of these, held at Scotney Castle last week with representatives of Kent and East Sussex, proved this to be a useful means for disseminating ideas and elucidating problems; and incidentally for establishing that the Society, so far from seeking to "perpetuate the obsolete," maintains that the best way to preserve old buildings of character is by adapting them to the required standards of to-day. In fact, 95 per cent. of old houses can be reconditioned at lower cost than that of building a new house, and the Society exists to give technical assistance in doing so. One misconception that the meeting cleared up was that a reconditioned house has to meet the same requirements as the council house; another, that Public Health officers are always technically qualified to judge whether it is possible or economic to recondition instead of condemning. If an authority is sympathetic to the government's policy of improvement, not only will it make more generous grants but (irrespective of the credit squeeze) can lend the owner his fifty per cent. share of the cost.

MOVING BANK HOLIDAY

CERTAIN dates in the calendar have acquired a fixed and almost sacred character, so that a proposal to change them must strike many people as an outrage. One of them is surely August Bank Holiday. It is a date standing for thousands as the beginning of a hard-earned holiday, and if there are a few cynical persons who regard it as a date to be particularly avoided, they may be neglected. Now comes an iconoclastic suggestion that the Government should be asked to move Bank Holiday from the first Monday in August to the last, and it comes, moreover, from a body that must be supposed expert in holidays, namely, the British Federation of Hotel and Boarding House Associations, meeting appropriately enough at Blackpool. They appear quite frank about their motives, since they say the change would help the holiday industry by extending the season. It may, no doubt, be argued that August is apt to be a wet month and September a fine and sunny one, but the beginning of September means a cruelly long wait for holidays. There are, indeed, some people who take an almost malicious pleasure in saving up their holidays until they can rejoice in everyone being back at work while they themselves bask in happy idleness, but they will hardly carry the day. To change August Bank Holiday has almost as monstrous a sound as changing Christmas.

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By **IAN NIALL**

GLUT is the sad thing about autumn, at least for the little man who could eat what he grows if only it would keep long enough. Commercial growers follow strict routines from start to finish. They spray for this and that. They wash, they band, they fix their bloom, thin their fruit when necessary, pick at the critical moment, pack expertly and store scientifically. One cannot help but admire their thoroughness and they deserve their reward.

* * *

AT the cottage of recent years the trees have been sprayed when we have thought of it and have been neglected when we have not. The fruit has been picked when we have had time, stored where there has been room, and eaten when we had the capacity for another pie or a dessert apple. As in past seasons we are at the moment trying to cope with everything at once. Potatoes are stored indoors because we much prefer this to making a clamp. Clamps can be raided by voles and other pests, and there is always the danger that rot will work unseen. The fact that potatoes take up the lower part of our store means that apples have to be laid out in the loft. We manage that and usually have a surplus at every turn. At the same time tomatoes have either to be pulped, turned into chutney or thrown away, and the grapes are ready.

It would help if everything we grow in excess of our needs could be sold, but alas, this is not possible. The only crop that is almost invariably of superlative quality is the pear. The previous owner sold his pears without difficulty, although he didn't trouble to pass the information on when he left. We discovered it by accident. Having far more large dessert pears than we could eat, we enquired and found a fruiterer who was eager to have them. It turned out that he had been in the habit of buying the whole lot for many years. He knew more about our pears than we did ourselves. He wasn't interested in the apples. They were not of the same quality. We might have baskets of apples of different sorts, but we found we had to accept the verdict. The professional grower produced better stuff because he was prepared to put much more into it.

* * *

IN consequence of our failure to dispose of the apples, we have to eat what we can. An apple a day may keep the doctor away, but a bushel of them is another matter. One can pulp apples. The bottling of fruit is for some people a thing that gives the greatest satisfaction. I used to think that way until we had a glut of gooseberries and no sugar to make jam. I bottled gallons of them. We still have some of them and I am not sure now just how many years ago they were done. I didn't take the trouble to put the date on them, as my grandmother would surely have done. They look as firm and as green as ever, but no one will volunteer to be a guinea pig, and we shall probably have them for the rest of our days, unless I can bring myself to throw them away. They put me off bottling any more gooseberries, or apples, for that matter. A barrel of wine has the same significance. One year we had too many grapes. Last year when the same thing happened, instead of making wine we laid the grapes out for the hens and they made short work of them, which was just as well. We couldn't sell them and, in any case, the frost got at some of them when a pane of glass dropped out of the vinery roof. This year, knee deep in tomatoes in various stages of ripening, we shall probably have a new treat for the hens. If they enjoy tomatoes as much as they enjoyed the grapes they may be encouraged to come out of the sulks and lay a few more eggs. The graph has taken a turn for the worse and we are in the red again.

To return to fruit, recently, when I discovered I was about to fall over a bucketful of apples placed beside a door—apples are where one finds them with us at the moment, for the apple store is lumbered up with all sorts of stuff that was stacked somewhere else last year—I thought about a cider press. We could make cider, providing our apples are suitable, and if not, there may be something in a piece I read in one of John Moore's books the other day about the making of apple jack. Perhaps, after all, we really need a pig. A pig eats anything. It could plough its way through wrinkled tomatoes, shrivelled grapes and little apples that might have been bigger had we done all that spraying and pruning we meant to do last winter.

* * *

I READ the other day a reference to an old Yorkshire remedy for chest ailments, a piece of apparel known as a tallow waistcoat. This consisted of a square of brown paper in which a hole had been cut for the wearer's head. The sheet was perforated with a hatpin, presumably to let the skin breathe, rubbed with a "farthing dip" and covered with grated nutmeg. It was then sewn on to the sufferer, who wore it until it fell to pieces. A good one would last almost a whole winter. This reminded me of a favoured chest protector used when I was a boy. It, too, consisted of a sheet of stout brown paper with a hole for the sufferer's head. The paper was held in place by means of thread and was dressed with oil or goose grease. Small boys hated wearing these things, for they crackled and rustled when the wearer moved about and there was no concealing the fact that mollycoddles were present. "Hey!" some spiteful neighbour would shout, "this one's got brown paper under his shirt; feel!" The boy with the brown paper vest would blush and try to escape the torment of having the paper crackled.

Sturdy boys needed no such protection, and between them and the wearers of brown paper were those who were rubbed with goose grease. I never had any of this sort of doctoring, but goose grease, it was commonly held, had to be worn until the advent of warmer weather—"You'd catch your death, else." I was spared goose grease, but the horse oil that was applied to me advertised itself better than goose grease or brown paper. There was another thing that living at that time exposed one to in a fashion I never hear about now—the night air. I had many a rubbing and many a gruel to counteract the fact that I had been out when the mist was rising in the hollows. Such was the terror that the chill night air had for me that to this day I find it difficult to walk home on a misty, damp night without expecting to be lectured and rubbed with horse oil strong enough to take the skin off one's chest.

Mary Bradley

THE FRIENDS' MEETING-HOUSE AT COME-TO-GOOD, NEAR TRURO, CORNWALL

THE COUNTRY LIFE ANNUAL

The "*Country Life*" *Annual* for 1957 will be on sale on November 1, price 8s. 6d. It contains articles illustrated in colour on Harewood House, Yorkshire, by Gordon Nares, Staffordshire Earthenware Figures, by G. Bernard Hughes, and Colour Photography by W. A. Poucher. Among the other contributions are one on Victorian furniture by R. W. Symonds, *The Invisible Life in the Soil*, by Sir E. John Russell, *An Anthology of Great Golf Shots*, by Bernard Darwin, *When Georgian was Modern*, by Christopher Hussey, *The Present State of Fox-hunting*, by Frances Pitt, and an account by Curt Harnack of a remarkable attempt by a colony of English aristocrats to establish themselves in the state of Iowa, U.S.A., in the 1880's. As the demand for the *Annual* always exceeds the supply, readers are advised to place their orders now.

VISITING COUNTRY HOUSES 200 YEARS AGO

By BERNARD DENVIR

As early as the 17th century that astute Caroline, Francis Lord Cottington, was writing about Hanworth: "There is a certain large room under the new building, with a fountain in it, and other rare devices, and the open gallery is painted by the hand of a second Titian. Dainty walks are made abroad, in so much that the old porter with the long beard is like to have a good revenue by admitting strangers" (Stafford papers). An awareness of the spiritual and economic advantages to be derived from the possession of a great country house is not, indeed, peculiar to our own century and the tempting of the public by the means of milk-bars is a refinement rather than an innovation.

The familiar complaints made themselves heard early, too. On August 21, 1725, a writer in *The Speculatist* (the title of the journal indicates metaphysics, not gambling) complained bitterly that at many noble houses it was necessary to pay a fixed sum to be shown round, suggested that the noble owners took a percentage of the tips and concluded that even if they did not they undercut their servants' wages to a corresponding degree. At Hampton Court there were complaints not so much that the Royal servants took tips as that they complained loudly and aggressively if these were not large enough. At Versailles there was at least a pretence of forbidding this kind of blackmail, even if, in effect, its only result was to ensure that the process never took place under the eyes of an officer. The author of *A Five Weeks' Tour to Paris, Versailles, etc.* (4th ed., London, 1765) recorded that he had been forced by some minor functionary to part with money under the very bedroom window of Louis XV.

The size of the tip depended on a varying combination of the relative importance of the sightseer, the proprietor and the guide. Lord Bath and some of his friends who visited Holkham, which according to *The Norfolk Tour, or Traveller's Pocket Companion* (1777) could be seen "Every day of the week except Sunday by Noblemen and Foreigners, but on Tuesdays only by Other People," forgot to leave anything. Covered with remorse, he sent a servant back some six miles with half-a-crown for the steward. Horace Walpole, who relates the story (*Letters*, ed. Toynbee, Vol. ii, p. 292), was struck by the smallness of the sum.

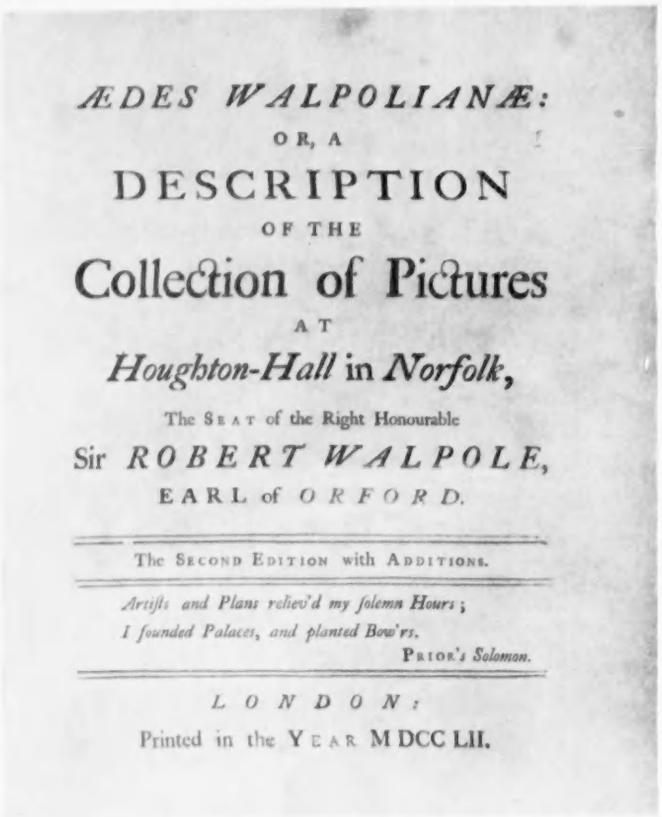
Not until the advent of the industrious Dr. G. F. Waagen in the 1830s was there anyone to rival Walpole himself in the expertise of country house viewing. He was conscientious, active and scholarly, and the fruits of his explorations are to be found more widely scattered than *The Journals of Visits to Country Seats* alone would suggest. They are scattered through his correspondence and *Anecdotes of Painting*, and even in such unexpected places as the fly-leaf of Vertue's old copy of *A Description of the Earl of Pembroke's Pictures* (1731), where is to be found "A list of Collections now in England" (F. H. Taylor, *The Taste of Angels*, London, 1948, p. 451).

A typical Walpole round took in Sir John Dashwood's vast new house at High Wycombe, Lady Jersey's mansion and a peaceful day at Lord Guilford's estate at Wroxton, which he viewed "more agreeably than you can conceive," and where he "roamed over the whole house, found every door open, and saw not a creature." Society then, of course, was more compact, hospitality more fluent than to-day. For a man in Walpole's position a visit to a nobleman's seat was little different from visiting the home of a relative, and lack of a visit would have been remarkable. The only drawback likely to arise was a personal one, and in his old age he complained to Farington that he had not been able to see Payne Knight's antique bronzes at Westminster because he had once criticised their owner's prose style (Farington Diary, ed. J. Greig, Vol. i, July 24, 1796).

Some people were definitely hurt if their residence were not visited by peripatetic celebrities, especially if these happened to be publicists. Dean Lyttelton wrote indignantly to Mrs. Montagu about the fact that Dr. Richard Pococke, author of a famous book of travels, did not visit Hagley when he was in the neighbourhood. The degree of his chagrin can be deduced from the fact that he suggested that the loss was Pococke's. His anger was understandable in view of the fact that his brother had nearly beggared himself building the fine Italian house there, and that the Dean had designed and built a classical dairy in the grounds.

One does not have to subscribe entirely to Veblen's theory about conspicuous expenditure to admit that building a great country house was frequently actuated by a sense of self-esteem, reinforced often enough by quite practical motives. Sir Robert Walpole founded his political fortunes very largely on conspicuous expenditure, reinforced, of course, by conspicuous acquisition, and Houghton Hall was only the peak of a steady crescendo of magnificence. The sad thing in a way is that according to Harvey it was just this which caused the split between him and Townshend. Raynham could not live up to the more obvious splendours of Houghton and its owner felt a corresponding bitterness. Those who are apt to look upon Horace Walpole as an ineffective dilettante should realise that his first, and to some his greatest, piece of art criticism, the *Aedes Walpolianae*, was one of the most effective contributions that any of Sir Robert's sons made to the family fortune. It was as much a puff as a piece of art scholarship.

In the previous century Clarendon (according to Burnet's *History of My Own Time*) held that his own house was largely responsible for the tide of envy which turned against him. It was all linked up with that new sense of the awareness of property which divided the spiritual climate of the post-Elizabethan world from that which had prevailed before. Both social and spiritual insecurity were exorcised by the possession of a fine house, fine paintings and fine statues. They were an armour against



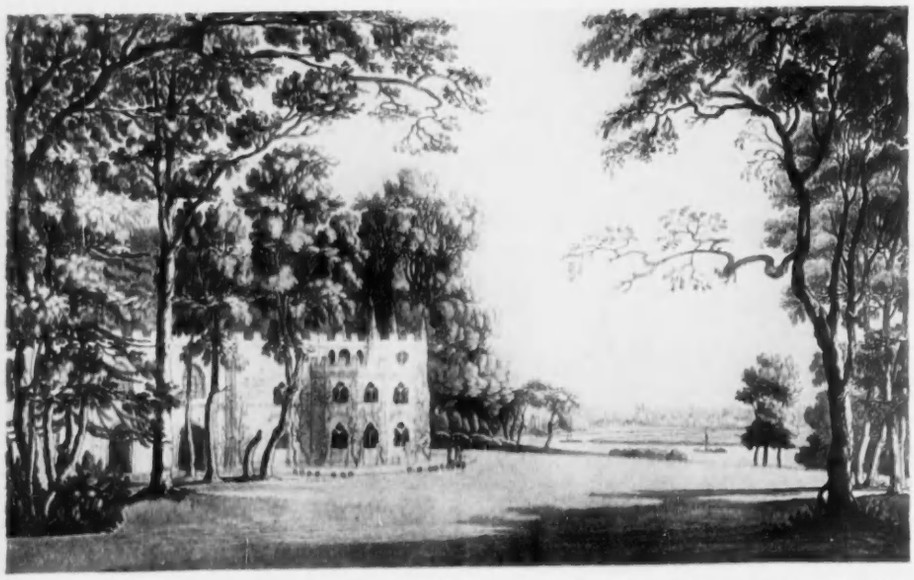
ÆDES WALPOLIANÆ:
OR, A
DESCRIPTION
OF THE
Collection of Pictures
AT
Houghton-Hall in *Norfolk*,
The SEAT of the Right Honourable
Sir *ROBERT WALPOLE*,
EARL of *ORFORD*.

The SECOND EDITION with ADDITIONS.

Artists and Plans reliev'd my solemn Hours;
I founded Palaces, and planted Bow'rs.
PRIOR's *Solomon.*

LONDON:
Printed in the YEAR MDCCLII.

THE TITLE PAGE OF *ÆDES WALPOLIANÆ*, ONE OF THE MOST SUMPTUOUS AND SIGNIFICANT GUIDE BOOKS TO A COUNTRY HOUSE EVER PUBLISHED, BY HORACE WALPOLE. In the Victoria and Albert Museum



STRAWBERRY HILL, HORACE WALPOLE'S HOUSE AT TWICKENHAM, WHERE VISITORS WERE ADMITTED BY TICKET. An engraving of 1793 after Joseph Farington

fate. For the exorcism to be completely successful, however, it was necessary in most cases that they should be known throughout the land. Men like the younger Beckford, who kept bloodhounds in the gardens to deter the occasional visitor, were the exception rather than the rule. Travel was becoming easier, and a steadily increasing volume of explanatory literature about noblemen's seats poured from the press throughout the century. This varied in style and approach a good deal. On the one hand there were the sumptuous volumes of *Vitruvius Britannicus*, Kyp and Knyff's *Noblemen's Seats* (1709) and such-like publications, intended to appeal to a specialised and expert public; on the other there were the pocket guides, *The Norfolk Tour* (1777), *A Short Account of the Principal Seats and Gardens in and about Twickenham* (1760); and, midway between, came that impressive tribute to the labours of Thomas Martyn, Professor of Botany in the University of Cambridge—*The English Connoisseur; containing an account of what is Curious in Painting, Sculpture, Etc., in the Palaces and Seats of the Principal Gentry of England*, in two volumes.

So extensive a literature could not obviously have been supported merely by the fortunate owners of the buildings which they extolled. Intellectual curiosity, snobbishness, a delight in travel for its own sake and a host of other admirable and reprehensible motives impelled people in increasing numbers to seek out, in a world which did not know colour reproductions or half-tone blocks, the vast wealth of man-made beauty which had been accumulating in Britain since the Middle Ages. We must not forget that though John Wilkes had suggested the setting up of a National Gallery, and, though the British Museum opened its doors to the public on January 15, 1759, there were little opportunities for the general public to see works of art of any importance, and the very survival of cultural vitality depended on the extent to which the owners of noble seats were prepared to throw them open to public inspection. Even in the early years of the 19th century a house such as Coleorton was a nursery for the budding talents of several painters.

There had always been those who took a special interest in the arts, and who, therefore, seized every opportunity to see notable

MRS. SHOWELL, THE CHARWOMAN WHO, WITH "A RISIBLE LACK OF ACCURATE KNOWLEDGE," SHOWED VISITORS THE PICTURES THAT HAD BEEN BEQUEATHED TO CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD, BY GENERAL GUISE. After an etching of 1807 by T. Newton

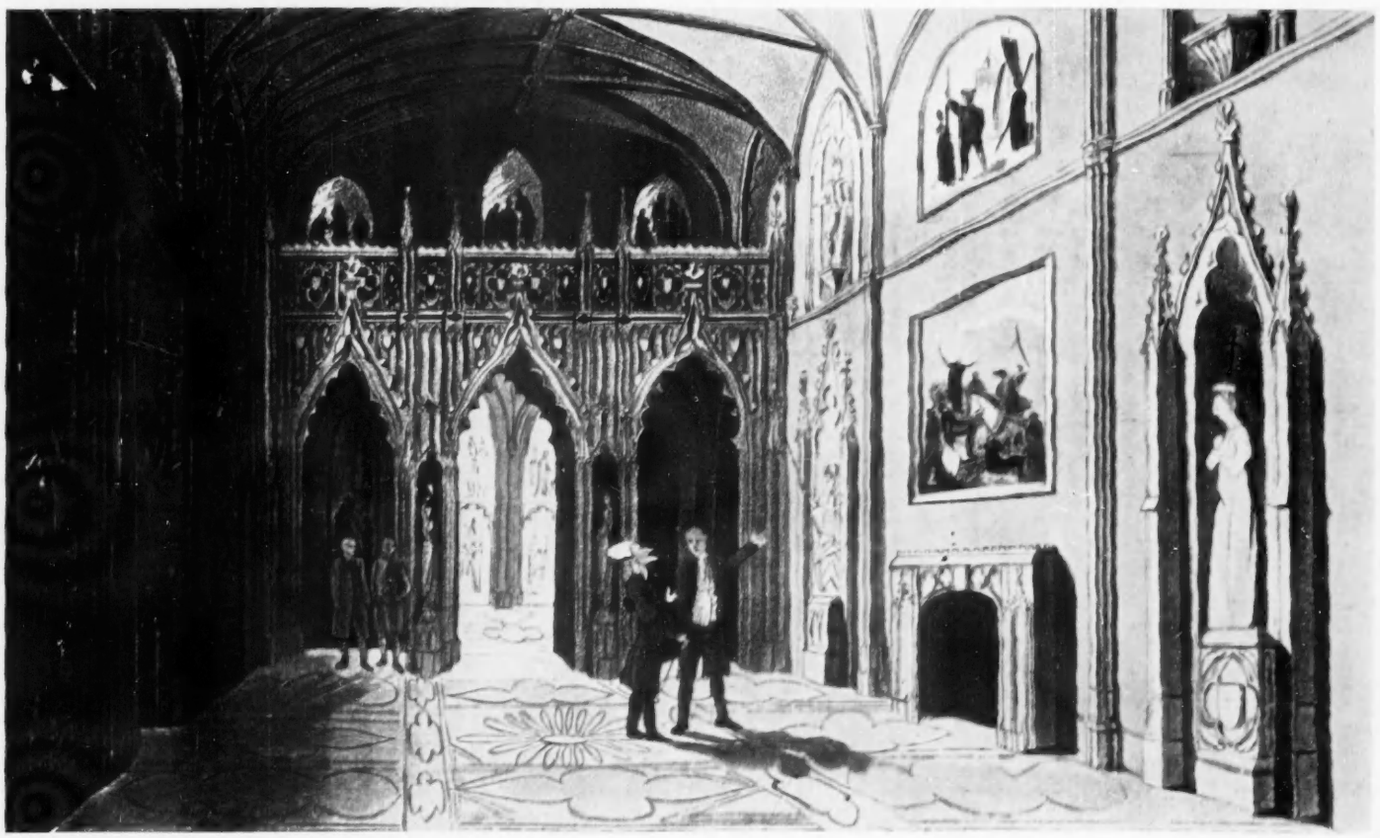
collections. Pepys decrying the pictures at Audley End, Evelyn with his trained, scholarly eye, Celia Fiennes finding works by Rubens "disgusting and indecent" (August 16, 1687) and Defoe calculating the social significance of every "cabinet," were the forerunners of a whole tribe of pilgrims all of whom had absorbed the notion, first publicised in Elizabethan times, that a knowledge of the rudiments of appreciation was the sign of gentle breeding.

Only a fraction of the travellers who recorded what they saw achieved the comparative immortality of print; some of the rest are recorded in William Matthews's *British Diaries* (Univ. of California and Cambridge University Presses, 1950). Nearly all felt some compulsion to expatiate on their visual and social experiences, even though it was in so succint a manner as Fanny Burney's "Wilton, exquisite Van Dycks . . . Milton Abbey Chapel, a beautiful old building." Johnson was a little less receptive and on his visit to North Wales suggested that Lord Kilmorey displayed Shavington Hall "with too much exaltation." His visit to Kedleston was more successful, for there he found the housekeeper who showed them round "a most distinct articulator" (Boswell, ed. Hill, v, 494).

Not all female guides were so successful. At Christ Church, Oxford, visitors to the fine collection of pictures bequeathed by General Guise found that the charwoman who showed them these treasures displayed what the historian of the college describes as "a risible lack of accurate knowledge." Perhaps the most interesting thing about this lady is that her name (the evidence exists on the college registers) was Mrs. Showell (W. G. Hiscock, *A Christ Church Miscellany*, Oxford, 1946, page 94).

At many of these famous houses a ticket system was in operation. Boswell, for instance, secured two tickets to see Lord Bute's Luton Hoo on June 4, 1781, and the British Museum still possesses evidence of Horace Walpole's rather defensive arrangements for visits to Strawberry Hill, in the shape of a printed leaflet. "Mr. Walpole is very ready to oblige any curious persons with the sight of his house and collections; but as it is situated so near London, and in so populous a neighbourhood, and as he refuses a ticket to nobody that sends for one, it is but reasonable that such persons as send should comply with the rules he has laid down for showing it.

"Any person sending a day or two before, may have a ticket for four for a day certain. No ticket will serve but for the day for which it is given. If more than four people come with a ticket, the housekeeper has positive orders to admit none of them. Every ticket will admit the company only between the hours of twelve and three before dinner, and only one company will



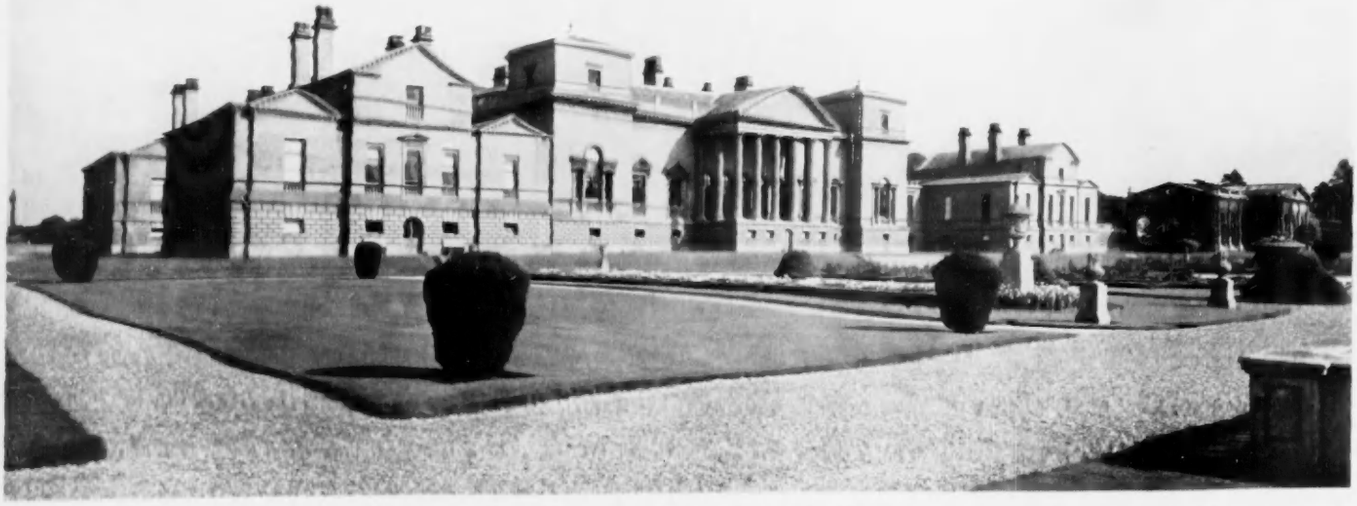
DR. SYNTAX VISITS EATON HALL, CHESHIRE. *An illustration by Rowlandson from The Second Tour of Dr. Syntax (1820)*

AUDLEY END, ESSEX, WHERE PEPYS WAS SHOWN "A GREAT MANY PICTURES, AND NOT ONE GOOD ONE IN THE HOUSE BUT ONE OF HARRY THE EIGHTH, DONE BY HOLBEN." A contemporary view by Henry Winstanley

THE HALL AT KEDLESTON, DERBYSHIRE, WHERE SAMUEL JOHNSON FOUND THE HOUSEKEEPER WHO SHOWED HIM ROUND "A MOST DISTINCT ARTICULATOR"

be admitted on the same day. The house will never be shown after dinner, nor at all but from the first of May to the first of October. As Mr. Walpole has sometimes given offence by sometimes enlarging the number of four and refusing that latitude to others, he flatters himself that for the future nobody will take it ill that he strictly confines that number; as whoever desires him to break his rule does in effect expect him to disoblige others, which is what nobody has a right to desire of him. Persons desiring a ticket may apply either to Strawberry Hill or to Mr. Walpole's in Berkeley Square, London. If any person does not make use of a ticket, Mr. Walpole hopes he shall have notice, otherwise he is prevented from obliging others on that day, and thence is put to great inconvenience. They who have tickets are desired not to bring children."

Good sense, good breeding and, apart from one unfortunate clause, good prose could hardly be carried further.



HOLKHAM HALL, NORFOLK, WHICH IN THE 18th CENTURY COULD BE SEEN "EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK EXCEPT SUNDAYS BY NOBLEMEN AND FOREIGNERS, BUT ON TUESDAYS ONLY BY OTHER PEOPLE"

KITTIWAKES AND FULMARS IN SKYE

Written and Illustrated by SETON GORDON

SKYE is a large island with a rocky coastline, in length by road a full 70 miles. It is, therefore, surprising that, until this year, Skye was without a kittiwake colony. At the end of August, during a visit to Hunish, the most northerly promontory on the island, I was glad to see that a colony of kittiwakes had established themselves there, their neighbours, that late summer afternoon, being shags, a few fulmars on the wing and (this was unexpected) a golden eagle.

It was an afternoon of blue sea and bright sunshine. On the cliffs the rosettes of the cushion pink were very green; there was a second flowering on the sea thrift plants and on one of the cushion pink colonies also. Ling, both purple and white, grew almost to the edge of the cliff and scented the air. East, across the sunlit sea, nimbus clouds foretold thunder above the high mainland hills; they towered, thick and solid almost as the hills themselves, into the blue sky.

A FULMAR FLYING ALONG THE NORTH COAST OF SKYE. The fulmar colony on the north wing of the Island, first noticed in about 1930, now consists of some 300 pairs

The extent of the kittiwake colony was not at first noticeable. I watched for some time four single birds standing as if on guard on their flattened nests before realising, from strident cries made by invisible birds, that these kittiwakes were merely the outposts of the colony, which was hidden by a rock stack. A young kittiwake, trying its wings, was flying bat-like over the sea; it flew erratically a little way seaward, then returned to patrol the face of the cliff with attractive, hesitating flight. It was tasting, perhaps for the first time, the joys of being airborne on a day of bright sunshine and light breezes. Kittiwakes love their homes. A pair returned to an empty nest and stood there, displaying to one another and uttering their harsh yet musical: "Kitti-wake, kitt-eee wake, kit kit kit." Their white plumage was brilliant against the blackness of the cliff.

The main kittiwake colony, which I found later, was in twilight far down the cliff. Here young birds, full-feathered, were standing on their nests; their parents, flying in from sunshine to dusk, merged with the darkened ledges. It was unexpected to find full activity at a kittiwake colony at the end of August. The birds had evidently found it hard to keep their nests in position on the small ledges, most of which, to make matters more difficult, sloped gently seaward; indeed, one bird was still making an attempt at nest-building.

From time to time gannets, moving at speed, passed close to the kittiwake colony. They were, perhaps, St. Kilda birds, travelling to good fishing grounds. St. Kilda gannets habitually make the 90-mile flight from their nesting stacks far out in the Atlantic to the neighbourhood of Skye and even beyond that island. Shags in glossy plumage stood beside nests from which the broods had flown, or else fished in the green waters. The swell murmured at the cliff-foot; across the radiant sea Harris and Lewis rose, white clouds poised high above them. In the mid-distance rose the dark rock, Iasgair, and the pleasant Fladday Chuain group of islands.

Very different was the scene when two friends and I visited the fulmar colony on the north wing of Skye. This is probably the first fulmar petrel colony to be founded in Skye, and was first noticed around the year 1930. It is yearly increasing and now consists of perhaps 300 pairs of birds. This year a record number of young were fledged. One at the end of August was still partly in blue-grey down, but most of the chicks were feathered. They are not easy, at first sight, to distinguish from the adult birds, although their plumage is a shade lighter. There was a strong north-east wind blowing that afternoon, with a rough sea. This wind seemed to have a stimulating effect on the young fulmars, which were vigorously performing wing exercises; it was noticed that they were careful to face the rock while beating their wings, in order to avoid the risk of flying themselves out of the nest; their down was strewed on the ledge around them. Adult fulmars were exulting in the storm, sailing along the cliff's edge or rising many yards almost vertically as the wind gusts caught them.

There is now a noticeable change in their habits. When the colony was smaller, the young birds were left to themselves a good deal before fledging, and for days at a time one did not see a single adult fulmar. In those earlier years most of the young fulmars mysteriously disappeared before they were feathered, and I have little doubt that the pair of great black-backed gulls which nest yearly on a neighbouring stack, and the ravens which rear their young farther along the face of the cliff, made meals off them. I have seen a young great black-back, when alarmed, disgorge a young fulmar, very recently swallowed. The adult fulmar has few enemies, though one was seen in a golden eagle's eyrie on Islay.

Now that autumn is here, both fulmars and kittiwakes, young and old, will leave the land and leave coastal waters. They will fly westwards, each day moving farther out into the Atlantic until, in mid-ocean, they join their cousins from Newfoundland. The kittiwakes do not return to land until late March, but the fulmars pay brief visits to their breeding cliff during January and February, and in March the colony takes up residence for the season.

KITTIWAKES AT THEIR NESTS. This year a colony of kittiwakes, the first to breed on Skye, established themselves on Hunish, the most northerly promontory of the island

CATS, SHELLS AND SKULLS

By GEOFFREY GRIGSON

THERE is a story told by Algernon Blackwood about a French town where the people walk in a cat-like way along the walls and turn into cats at night. At Bramber, in Sussex, I should have thought that cats would have turned, desperately, into earwigs. It might have been no good. It might not have saved them from the affectionate fury of Mr. Potter, of Potter's Museum and Exhibition of Humorous Taxidermy, who would have changed from making a tableau of stuffed cats or rats, if need be, to contriving one of stuffed earwigs in a cabinet room discussing the Schoolmasters (Compulsory Side-whiskers) Bill.

This needs some explaining, I am aware, if you have never visited Bramber. Bramber has a castle—one of those Sussex castles which protect gaps through the barrier of the South Downs. The castle is squat and venerable, but visitors come to Bramber for the fantasies of Mr. Potter assembled below the castle heights in a cottage-like building of red brick. And this particular museum at Bramber occurred to me first when I had a mind to write about some of the more eccentric (and usually amateur) museums that one encounters here and there about the countryside.

Yet to be exact, I thought of two museums first, or of two museums and one open-air exhibition. The other museum is in Norfolk, a museum largely of shells which you approach to the music of hymns played inside the neighbouring church tower. The exhibition—and what an exhibition—was in France; and I shall say a word about that first. We were hurrying south last year to look at caves and cave art in the Dordogne and the Pyrenees. But we happened to spot in the guide-book mention of a dolmen turned into a Christian chapel or shrine. This dolmen was on a river island. We found the island, we found a footbridge crossing the river, we could see sun-browned scythers rhythmically cutting through the hay; but our lane was narrow and there was nowhere to park.

We drove on, we parked as soon as we could in the wide opening of a lane. We looked over a wall—and there it was, more fantastic than the dolmen which we toiled to under the sun. There was the exhibition, the garden of someone proclaiming his Love—I think the capital L and capital N are necessary—his Love for Nature.

It is true he had nesting-boxes set against the trees above a brook which descended jump by jump in a serpentine course through the garden. But if I were a bird, I think I should have kept clear. Nature, you see, in this garden was primeval or savage. A crocodile lay by the brook among the foliage, asleep. Other unfriendly-seeming animals were about, though there were also rabbits and squirrels. If these were not eaten, it was only because they too, like the crocodile and other predators, had been cast in cement or concrete.

The whole tally of the exhibition of the Love of Nature included much else. More than one *genius loci*, each a bearded head and shoulders on a shaft of concrete, was fixed into the ground, at different levels. Ivy grew up their shafts and wreathed round them, hiding, or half-hiding, features which were a cross between a lustful satyr of the woods and King Charles I by Van Dyck. One had fallen from its neck and shaft and lay in the stream, and the water rippled across his features. As if to give reassurance to English taste, some squat, bearded, coloured gnomes were there as well; and now I come to recall the inhabitants, I must admit that they included birds, some brilliant in red, blue and yellow. But these also were models.

Be warned if you go to Bramber that you may be afflicted with the sentiments which overcame us as we leant over the wall by that roadside in France: fascination, to begin with, followed by a certain horror at the odd—oddly vacuous—proceedings of the human mind. If this French exhibitor loved nature, I suspect that Mr. Potter loved cats, squirrels, rats, robins and all the other creatures his nimble fingers compelled to act in Victorian charades. Those whom he loved he immortalised, in his glass cases, fitting them with the immortal life of glass eyes. Kittens are married, rats swank around, dressed as Victorian gentlemen at their ease, animals help in the burial of poor Cock Robin.

POTTER'S EXHIBITION OF HUMOROUS TAXIDERMY AT BRAMBER, SUSSEX. "Kittens are married, rats swank around, dressed as Victorian gentlemen at their ease, animals help in the burial of poor Cock Robin"

Of course, when I go to a country museum, I like—the correct expression, no doubt, for the museum at Bramber—the whole hog. A recent visit showed me that delicate hands had been revising Bramber. I miss the freaks, the real stuffed freaks, nature doing Mr. Potter's work for him, which used to be enshrined. But I still came away from Bramber thinking that Mr. Potter successfully proved life to be full of sound—or stuffed silence—and fury signifying precisely nothing at all.

I dare say a philosopher might feel the same after a visit to the Shell Museum at Glandford, in one of the northern and most pleasant districts of Norfolk.* It is true that in the museum you can find not only shells, but a sugar basin used by Queen Elizabeth, some marble from the temples of Paestum, two parrot fish floating from wires, two carved emu eggs and a scrap of the *Royal George*, sunk on August 29, 1782. "Toll for the brave—the brave! that are no more. . . ."

But this is going too fast.

Picture to yourself the setting of the Shell Museum. A slight, wide valley; then on the floor of the valley a farmstead and cottages in

THE PITT-RIVERS MUSEUM AT FARNHAM, DORSET. It was founded by General Pitt-Rivers, first Inspector of Ancient Monuments

* The Shell Museum at Glandford was the subject of an article by Miss Bea Howe in COUNTRY LIFE of December 5, 1952.

red brick and a side lane leading to a ford, wide and smooth, across the River Glaven. To the right of the lane a black flint church, on a hillock.

Bells in the black church tower, if the hour has struck, may be playing as you arrive, *Jerusalem, my happy Home, Once in David's Royal City, The Saints of God, their Conflict past, On the Resurrection Morning*, or *There is a Fountain filled with Blood*, which is not all of the changing repertoire. Between the black church and the lane, and near the ford, stands the Shell Museum, in a red building not unlike that of Potter's Museum at Bramber. Very decidedly it will not be open, or opened unto you, on Sunday.

This is a baronet's museum—the fantasy of a baronet who liked hymn tunes, bells and shells. Shells are not stuffed cats, and to examine them in case after case, inside a building ornamented with a dado of scallop shells set on a blue background, is not an experience which exhausts you—or exhausts me—with a sense of the signification of nothing.

Moreover a museum of shells gives a taste of history and a delicious inkling of wide horizons. Shell cabinets from the 17th century to the early age of Victoria were a hobby of tasteful kings and aristocrats. Polished, strangely shaped, strangely coloured, sometimes bizarrely, sometimes exquisitely shaped, shells also speak of a widening knowledge of oceans, of ships' boats which reach at last the sand of Africa, Arabia, Persia, India, Australia, China and islands of the Pacific.

I can assure anybody who thinks of a visit to Glandford, which is so far from anywhere in its corner or bulge of Norfolk, that the shells will give him an imperial quart of the proper sentiments.

Should the museums at Farnham in Dorset and the little museum at Avebury in Wiltshire come next? I am not sure these two should come at all. They may be too professional for this company. All the same, let them have a word. More people wander round the stones at Avebury, in Wiltshire, more people look at the plans of this great prehistoric temple provided so obligingly at the right points, than ever penetrate to the museum. It means walking past the church, through the churchyard and coming to the old stables of the manor house. If you do not care twopence for archæology, it is worth seeing this stable museum. It stands on a cobbled yard. One way you encounter a large comfortable dovecot, a manorial dovecote. The other way you are given a glimpse of lawns and pines and the rise and fall of gables and the slope of manor-house walls out of the perpendicular. The situation is one I always find enchanting, embracing and sedative. And the manor house is now, at times, open to your inspection.

If you do care for archæology, no small museum is better arranged or does its job—here explaining Avebury and the neighbouring site of Windmill Hill—more graphically, neatly, or completely.

As for the little museum at Farnham, in Cranborne Chase, not a great way from Shaftesbury, best of hilltop towns, it is not really so little after all. Eccentricity may be at the back of it, but it was an eccentricity of intellectual power. Here, down a lane, surrounded by green fields, and flanked by a statue of Caesar Augustus, in a building meant to school gypsies who did not care for schooling, General Pitt-Rivers, first Inspector of Ancient Monuments, assembled collections of archæology and pottery, of native carvings and the wonderful, or lifeful, bronze figures and bronze heads from Benin. Here also you may sit and have tea, after walking round exhibits which would not shame the British Museum.

As I say, too professional, too grand.

That is not a charge I should make against my last museum—one, this time, which is genuinely small. Do you know Harlyn Bay, in North Cornwall? About 1900 what was then a lonely area of Cornish cliff and beach and bay came into fame. A Mr. Reddie Mallett bought some land at Harlyn Bay and began to build himself a house. Digging for foundations and a well, the builder's men found a burial box of slate, fifteen feet down, in a wide accumulation of wind-blown sand.

Box succeeded box. Soon it became clear that an Iron Age cemetery had been discovered, and excavations followed. Mr. Reddie Mallett had the good notion of building a small museum. He had the better notion of preserving some of the burial boxes and the bones inside them, as they had been found. Visitors go round the little museum, they look at skulls, they look at implements, at a medley of recovered objects scarcely arranged with the expertness of Avebury or Farnham. They are not prepared for what follows—for the moment when the guardian ushers them into a backyard, as it seems, and introduces them to a number of cucumber-frames, wooden ones, rather weather-frayed and rotten. Inside, not cucumbers, but skulls and bones, skeletons long fallen apart, *in situ*, crouched into their rectangular boxes of slate.

And one thing makes these cucumber-skeletons all the more oratorical and touching. Ferns grow under the glass, ferns throw a faint green light on to the ancient heads and the dull tinted bones.

In a threepenny box in Charing Cross-road I fished up a pamphlet about Harlyn Bay published two years after Mr. Reddie Mallett hit upon these dead. It was full of photographs making the discoverers seem as antique as the discovered, as stuffed and posed as the tableaux of cats, squirrels and rats in Potter's Museum. There is Mr. Reddie Mallett, in a stiff collar and a waistcoat, with bare feet, brushing sand from a skeleton. There he is shovelling away sand from a box with a Cornish showel, while a tubby cleric in clerical clothes and hat leans forward to observe. There he is again, his young wife beside him, a skull at his knees, apparently lecturing a Cornish labourer on these relics of the labourer's Celtic ancestors.

Children I know of at Harlyn Bay were less reverent: they used to find skulls in the sand, equip them with sun-bonnets, and play tea parties with them.

EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR OF THE SHELL MUSEUM AT GLANDFORD, NORFOLK. ***"The fantasy of a baronet who liked hymn tunes, bells and shells"***

THE RETURN OF THE DEATH'S HEAD

By **L. HUGH NEWMAN**

THE mention of the death's head moth, *Acherontia atropos*, stirs the imagination of all naturalists, for this moth is the largest and the most remarkable of the hawk moths found in this country. It is not, however, strictly a native, because it seldom, if ever, survives the winter here, but arrives during the summer months as a casual vagrant. Its generic name *Acherontia* is undoubtedly taken from Acheron, a river in Hades, and alludes to the skull mark, the symbol of death, so boldly marked on the thorax of the insect. The specific name is also derived from Classical mythology, Atropos being one of the fates, the destroyers of life. It also refers to *Atropa belladonna*, the deadly nightshade, on which the caterpillars sometimes feed.

Vere Temple, in her book *Butterflies and Moths in Britain*, describes the moth very vividly in the following words. "Fate, the relentless one, has set on its back her seal—the skull. Its upper wings are streaked with the eddies of Acheron's dark waters; the lower wings are blackened and yellow as barren sands lapped by the tides of that sad river." This simile is extremely apt when a specimen is seen pinned out for the cabinet, but no writers ever seem to mention in descriptions of this strange moth, with a wing-span of nearly five inches, that its orange-yellow body is marked with dark lines that look like the ribs and spine of a human skeleton. I should imagine that it is these markings, quite as much as the skull on the back, which used to strike fear in the minds of superstitious and ignorant country people.

The famous French scientist Reaumur, who died in 1757, recorded in one of his books how the peasants of Brittany looked upon the death's head as a certain harbinger of pestilence and death. In country districts of Germany it used to be said that the squeak of a death's head moth was a warning of the approach of death.

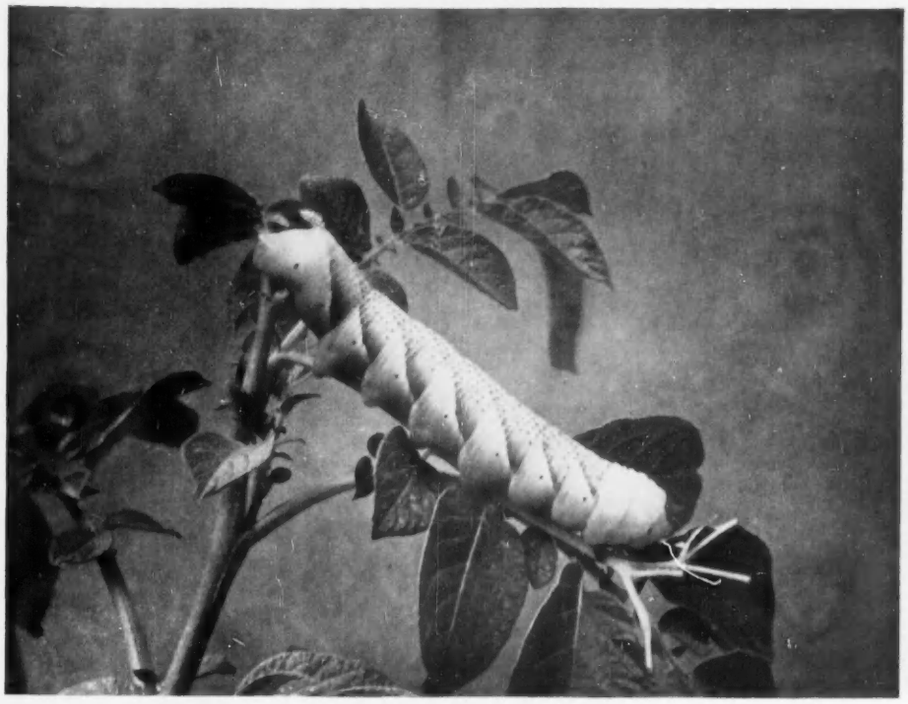
That kind of superstition has almost disappeared, at least in Europe, and to-day people are more interested than afraid, when a strange moth such as this is found, and the peculiar mouse-like squeak is no longer frightening. Very few insects possess a "voice" like this, although many of them can produce noises by friction between different parts of their bodies. The sound made by a death's head when it is touched is quite different in character, and suggests a small volume of air being expelled through a narrow fissure. It is generally accepted that the cry of the death's head is caused by the moth forcing air through the short proboscis, which acts as a sort of whistle.

DEATH'S HEAD HAWK MOTH. THIS AUTUMN BRITAIN HAS HAD MUCH LARGER NUMBERS THAN USUAL OF THIS MOTH. Its main breeding-grounds are thought to be along the coast of North Africa

COMPARATIVE SIZES OF A DEATH'S HEAD AND A HUMAN HAND. The skull-like marking from which the insect gets its name can be clearly seen

In England this large hawk moth is certainly a rare visitor. Normally fewer than a dozen are found each year, but this autumn there has obviously been a quite extraordinary migration from the Continent, for the moths have been found in numbers all over southern England and also farther north at Kendal in the Lake District and in Northumberland, and no fewer than seven were discovered at Selkirk in Scotland. This large-scale migration, which has not been equalled since 1933, is especially interesting because the past summer has not been a good season for the regular migrants among the lepidoptera. Very few clouded yellows, painted ladies or red admirals have crossed the Channel this year, and yet the death's head, and also the convolvulus hawk, have chosen this cold and wet summer to travel northwards.

The first records of death's heads were in June when the advance guard arrived, and the caterpillars and pupae which have been discovered in potato fields here and there are the progeny of these early arrivals. The main invasion, however, did not start until the beginning of September, when large numbers of death's heads must have crossed our southern coastline, probably under cover of darkness. There are reports from Devon, Wiltshire, Sussex, Surrey, Berkshire, Kent and even London, where the moths have been seen and captured. And when one considers how few of these arrivals would actually be reported, and how many must have gone on their way unnoticed and unrecorded, the imagination boggles at the thought of vast swarms of death's



LARVA OF THE DEATH'S HEAD, WHICH REACHES 5½ INS. IN LENGTH WITH A GIRTH OF NEARLY 2 INS. It is yellowish-green, with seven diagonal purple stripes along each side

heads whirring across the Channel and spreading out all over England.

The convolvulus hawks also migrated in considerable numbers and the date of their arrival coincides exactly with that of the death's heads, which were first seen on September 7 and continued to appear until the middle of the month, so the two moths probably travelled together. In addition, there appears to have been a second, later, invasion of convolvulus hawks in the west, for several were found in Cornwall and southern Ireland between September 17 and 22.

The death's head is not indigenous to Central Europe; its main breeding-grounds seem to be along the coast of North Africa, where potatoes are grown extensively in the sandy soil of the coastal areas, in the Canary Islands, which are also potato producers, and in the Middle East, where the larvae feed on other plants. In these countries the moth probably produces at least two, and possibly three, generations a year. Apparently the first wave of migrants set off northwards early in June this year, a few of them reaching England and the rest laying their eggs in potato fields all the way across France. The second migration in the early autumn was most likely made up of French-bred moths continuing the northward movement started by their parents.

The migratory instinct is strongly developed in the death's head, and being a powerful insect, with a body almost as big as a mouse which can store plenty of nourishment, it can travel far. In 1945 a specimen was caught on the Shetland Isles and several individuals have been found on board ships far out at sea. During the war a death's head flew on board H.M.S. *Laurentic*, 270 miles out from Cape Finisterre and others have been taken in herring drifters in the North Sea.

It is well established that the death's head lays eggs in this country (although no egg has actually been found) and that the caterpillars feed up and pupate successfully in our climate. A full-grown death's head larva is an impressive creature and could not be mistaken for any other species. It will reach five and a half inches in length, with a girth of nearly two inches. The usual colouring is a clear yellowish-green, decorated with seven diagonal purple stripes edged with yellow along each side. The back is thickly sprinkled with black dots, looking as if somebody had shaken a pepper pot over it. The first two segments behind the head have a puffed-up appearance and the body ends with a short depressed stump, very like the tail of a bulldog. Some caterpillars are more yellow than green and there is also a brown form with white stripes.

Although they are so large, these caterpillars are not easy to find in their natural surroundings. The disruptive pattern of the markings is a splendid camouflage when light filters through the potato leaves, casting bold shadows. I was once called to inspect an allotment where several of the potato plants had been completely stripped of leaves, and, even though I knew exactly what I was looking for, it took me some time to find the three death's head larvae which had moved up the row on to fresh plants.

When the caterpillar is full fed it burrows down into the earth and, by wriggling, squirming and moistening the soil with a liquid which hardens into a flimsy kind of silk filament, it constructs a hollow chamber surrounded by a layer of adhering soil granules; inside this earthen cocoon it finally changes into a large brown glossy pupa. In England this is nearly always the end of the story, for our chilly damp winters mean death to the pupae and the moths seldom emerge successfully, unless they are found when the potatoes are harvested and are forced out in heat by some knowledgeable person.

An interesting breeding experiment was carried out at the beginning of this century by the well known entomologist, H. W. Head, of Scarborough. He released several dozen death's heads, bred from Continental pupae, in a greenhouse planted with potatoes. Only a single pairing was observed and the female died without laying any eggs. Dissection showed that no eggs had developed in the body and the same thing applied to the rest of the females. Mr. Head came to the conclusion that either the climate or the lack of some essential nourishment was to blame for the infertility of all the specimens. The moths had been fed regularly on honey, which is a highly nourishing food and one for which they show a great liking in the wild, but apparently this was not enough.

Unlike the convolvulus hawk, which has a prodigious tongue that can stretch down to nectar secreted at the base of large flowers, the death's head has only a short stumpy proboscis and is therefore able to feed only from plants where the nectar is easily reached. This disability, coupled with a strong liking for honey, is no doubt the reason why these moths are so often found in or near beehives. A few years ago I had a specimen brought to me, which had been discovered sitting underneath a hive near Dartford in Kent. In the Middle East, where the moths are very common, the apertures of the hives are often made especially narrow to prevent them from entering and it is quite usual to find the moths in front of the hives, struggling to get in; in hives with wider openings the beekeepers often discover a dozen or more death's heads on the floor, stung to death by the bees.

An old name for the death's head was the "bee tyger hawk," and naturalists in days gone by believed that the high pitched squeak had a mesmeric effect on the occupants of the hive, making them forget to guard the entrance and so enabling the "tyger" to enter the fortress and feast on the stores. Modern beekeepers know full well that it is nothing of the sort and that few death's heads who manage to invade a hive escape with their lives.

COCOON AND CHRYSALIS OF THE DEATH'S HEAD. The cocoon is made in the earth, and the moth rarely emerges in this country owing to the climate

RACING NOTES

A FILLY'S CESAREWITCH

By DARE WIGAN

IT is not often that the Cesarewitch is won by a filly, for owners are reluctant to subject potential brood mares to what is generally accepted as being the most punishing event in the flat-racing calendar. However, Above Board, a daughter of Straight Deal, won the race for the late King in 1950, and last week Mr. A. J. Allen's Prelone, another tenacious member of her sex, scored a notable triumph for W. Hide's sporting little Shropshire stable when she held off Mr. J. Olding's Kribi by three-quarters of a length in a driving finish. Mr. P. Bartholomew's Gads Hill was four lengths away, third, and last year's winner, Curry, was a well-beaten fourth.

Apart from the fact that victory went to the only filly, the result of this year's Cesarewitch, which was run on a peerless autumn afternoon, was typical of the race in the way it upset most people's ideas of the likely winner. As has happened so often in the past, a number of runners, including several of the more fancied horses, were there with a chance as the cavalcade breasted the top of Bushes Hill approximately three furlongs from the winning-post, only to drop away beaten before another furlong had been covered. Indeed, no sooner had the leaders begun to make the descent into the Dip than Prelone and Kribi, two lightly-weighted three-year-olds—they carried 7st. 3lb. and 7st. 4lb. respectively—singled themselves from the ruck and it was at once apparent that the race lay between them. For a moment it seemed that Kribi, whose pedigree—he is by Alycidon out of a Brumeux mare—is full of stamina, might wear down the filly. But Prelone, whose sire is Precipitation, and whose dam, Loneliness, is by Umidwar out of Grass Widow, a mare who foaled a number of good winners for the late Mrs. Arthur James, lacks nothing on the score of stoutness, and, indeed, it seemed as though she was going away at the finish.

This year's Cesarewitch was essentially a family affair, for Prelone was ridden by E. Hide, a son of the trainer, and another son has charge of her in the stable. But, although it is the ambition of all young jockeys to ride the winner of a Cesarewitch, and Hide is only 19 years old, it was not a case of a raw apprentice making his presence felt in a big race for the first time, for he is already a seasoned jockey who has ridden a considerable number of winners. Moreover, he is no stranger to the Cesarewitch, for he finished second last year on Jenny Lind and third the previous year on Mixed Vermouth, both animals being trained by Capt. C. F. Elsey, who was quick to notice his potentialities. He is one of several strong and competent young riders who are learning fast, and as a well-known trainer observed after the race: "If we can only produce the horses, there are plenty of good boys to ride them."

Although the Cesarewitch, partly because of its historic associations, and partly because it is the first leg of the popular autumn double, is the centre-piece of the Second October Meeting, the fact is that the race is a shadow of its former self, and this year, with due respect to a very gallant winner, the runners, taken as a whole, were a moderate collection. Indeed, the first day's racing, which included the Newmarket Oaks, the Challenge Stakes and the Middle Park Stakes, offered a far better programme for the connoisseur, and the Middle Park Stakes, in particular, was as exciting a race as one could wish to see and one that may well have some bearing on next year's classics.

Of the eight runners, all of them colts, who took part in the race, Red God was made favourite on the strength of a clever victory over the tremendously fast Skindles Hotel in the Richmond Stakes at Goodwood and because his defeat by Eudaemon in the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster was a narrow one. But those who observed his demeanour in the paddock were inclined to shake their heads, for although he has power and substance there was a suspicion of the mulish behaviour that characterised his sire, Nasrullah. If Red God is a colt of unusual strength, he was as nothing to Wayne II, a colt by Petition sent over from France by Mr. R. B. Strassburger, for he is a massive creature who looked as though he might have been destined for Cheltenham the following day and had come to the wrong place by mistake. But since he had finished only half a length behind Skindles Hotel at Longchamp ten days earlier there was no doubt that he could gallop. Of the other runners Pipe of Peace, a beautifully formed brown colt by Supreme Court out of Red Briar, a mare by Owen Tudor who was runner-up to Festoon in the 1,000 Guineas of 1945, was turned out looking a picture of fitness, and Military Law, a son of Court Martial, who had run well three times in the highest class, also looked magnificent.

The field was completed by Flaneur and Earl Marshal, both trained by J. Jarvis, though for different owners; Bellborough, an upstanding colt who had won the valuable Autumn Foal Stakes at the last Newbury meeting; and Crepello, a startling chestnut colt by Donatello II out of the Mieuxcé mare, Crepescule, who had not run since Royal Ascot, when he bisected Fulfer and Military Law in a close finish for the Windsor Castle Stakes. Taken all in all, they were as handsome a collection of two-year-olds as I have seen for some years, and with the exception of Flaneur, who dropped out of the race before half-way, all ran well.

First to break the line were Earl Marshal and Bellborough, racing on opposite sides of the course, but these two could never get far in front, and two furlongs out they were being closely pressed by Wayne II, Crepello and Military Law, with Pipe of Peace making up ground steadily on the stands side. Coming into the Dip Wayne II's giant stride carried him to the front, and though Military Law was hanging on to him like a terrier, and Earl Marshal was still galloping strongly by himself on the far rails, it looked as though yet another valuable prize were going to France. But all this time, Breasley, on Pipe of Peace, was inching up to the leaders, and though it was rip and tuck up the hill, they collared J. Deforge and Wayne II a couple of strides from the winning-post. Pipe of Peace, who cost Mr. S. Niarchos 7,000 gns. as a yearling, is trained by Sir Gordon Richards, and was his fiftieth winner of the season, though he was to exceed that total later in the meeting when he saddled Misbehave, a full sister to Gay Time, Elopement and Cash and Courage to win the Alington Stakes for two-year-olds, also in Mr. Niarchos's colours.

Having disposed of one French challenge in the Middle Park Stakes, we had to face another and, numerically, a stronger one, in the Champion Stakes for three-year-olds and upwards run over one mile and a quarter. Indeed, this race, which this year was worth just over £4,000 to the winner, had a truly international flavour, for against Hugh Lupus, Pirate King, My Smokey and Victoria Cross, the chief hopes of the home side, were ranged Kurun, Fric, Chief III and Tribord from France, and Adare and No Comment from Ireland.

Sometimes it is possible before an important race to narrow the issue to two or three horses because they stand out on looks and conformation, and this was such an occasion, for Hugh Lupus, Pirate King and Fric were clearly the gentlemen of the party, and in spite of the dark atmosphere—the autumn sunshine of the two previous days had dissolved into a clammy mist—they carried a summer gloss on their coats. Moreover, with the exception of Pirate King, they ran as well as their appearance had suggested they would, for when the runners emerged from the mist approximately two furlongs from the winning-post, Fric was in front, and there, immediately behind him, was the unmistakable figure of Rae Johnstone on Hugh Lupus, poised to deliver his challenge. As they came into the Dip Johnstone struck, and with Hugh Lupus responding magnificently they swept up the hill and finished half a length to the good. Chief III was three lengths away, and Tribord fourth. But for Hugh Lupus the French would have taken the first three places. And, to be honest, we cannot claim his victory as a triumph for England, for he is a typical product of M. Boussac's breeding, having been sired by Djebel, from Sakountala, a mare by Goya. Indeed, Lady Ursula Vernon acquired Sakountala from M. Boussac when the mare was carrying Hugh Lupus.

The performance of Fric in finishing only half a length behind Hugh Lupus with the remainder of a high-class field well beaten emphasises the greatness of Ribot, for in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe run at Longchamp earlier in the month, Fric, who finished seventh, was a dozen lengths behind the Italian champion, who won cantering. Indeed, all that has happened before and since that race suggests that Ribot was one of the great racehorses of the century, and we must hope that tentative arrangements that he should stand at stud in this country are fulfilled, though Italian breeders, not unnaturally, are jibbing at the prospect of having to send their mares so far.

MR. A. J. ALLEN'S PRELONE WINNING THE CESAREWITCH STAKES AT NEWMARKET BY THREE-QUARTERS OF A LENGTH FROM MR. J. OLDING'S KRIBI. E. HIDE RODE THE WINNER

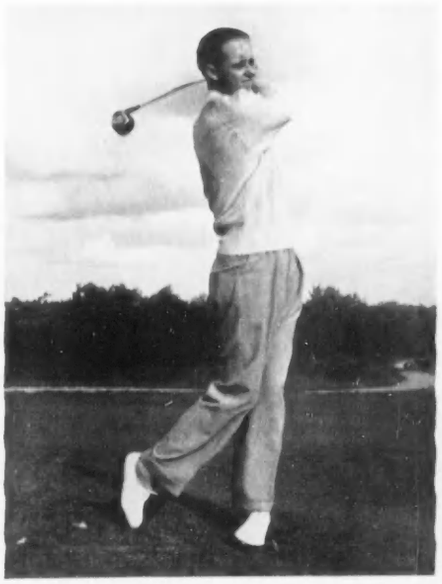
A GREAT NEW GOLF MATCH

A *Commentary* by BERNARD DARWIN

THE match at Wentworth between the British Isles and the Rest of Europe, I hope the first of many, which ended in a victory for the home team by 12½ matches to 2½, was extremely interesting, as any test of our tentative Walker Cup side must be, and extremely whetting to the curiosity. How good were these Europeans? Or rather how well would they play away from their own countries? That was the question, for only the arrogant or the ignorant could doubt that they were good. De Lamaze from France we knew as an absolutely first-class amateur, but there were others, such as Bevione, of Italy, and Barras, of Switzerland, who had finished ahead of some of our leading professionals in Continental championships. I remembered only too well a colleague on the Press who, before the first international match at Hoylake in 1921 (the herald of the Walker Cup), had written that, apart from one or two, the Americans were no better than "ordinary scratch players," and behold we suffered a most almighty and inglorious defeat. So I came to Wentworth full of hope, for I believed in our side, but prepared for anything in the way of nasty shocks, and anything but arrogant.

This comparatively humble state of mind persisted among British supporters up till lunch time in the foursomes. Britain had one lead of three up, and that against the great de Lamaze, but apart from that the leads were of the shortest. I said to a friend that it "might all go to the devil by the end of the day," and was accused with some bitterness of "your usual optimism." In fact, I had too little faith, and our side went steadily ahead in the afternoon to win all five foursomes. It was, I do assure people who were not there, a highly creditable performance.

Let me take the play match by match. Our first pair, Carr and Wolstenholme, met Bevione and Barras. I thought Barras, as far as I could judge, one of the best of our invaders, extremely sound in both method and results. Bevione was perhaps less impressive up to the green, but alarmingly good when he got there, a really beautiful striker of putts. There was nothing in it all the way round and Carr and his partner just got the lead with a grand four at the home hole which is over 500 yards long. It is impossible not to reflect that a five at this hole would have been good enough to win a certain Ryder Cup match of tragic memory. Carr and Wolstenholme were round in 75 and this, though it may not sound terrifying, meant very good golf, for Wentworth is exceedingly long. There were three holes, perhaps four, not to be reached under three shots; there had been heavy rain to slow down the course and it was almost too severe.



G. B. WOLSTENHOLME, A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH ISLES TEAM WHICH BEAT THE REST OF EUROPE AT WENTWORTH BY 12½ MATCHES TO 2½. Wolstenholme was among those who were victorious in both the foursomes and the singles

J. MOERMAN, ONE OF THE BELGIAN PAIR BEATEN BY J. C. BEHARRELL AND A. THIRLWELL

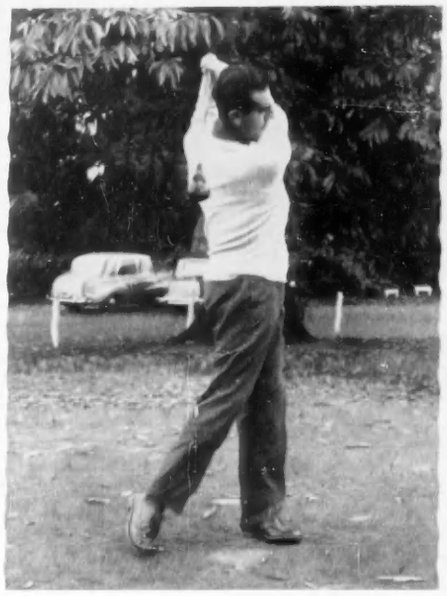
The second match, between the two Swedes, Bielke and Werkell, and Caldwell and Bussell, produced very moderate golf; Caldwell was not very good and there was little in it up to lunch. Reid Jack and Shepperson have already proved themselves as a pair against the professionals at Royal Mid-Surrey the other day, when they halved with two illustrious veterans, Lees and Adams. They played well again and finished three up on de Lamaze and Bardana. De Lamaze is a player of moods and it is not, I trust, disrespectful to say that he was this time in rather a don't-care mood and scarcely did himself justice.

The fourth match produced some good golf and some very exciting fluctuations. Tate and Duncan started as if they would murder the two Spaniards, Maura and Rezola, and were five up at the 7th hole, that famous hole with the plateau green where Lloyd Mangrum took four putts. But the Spanish pair were not easily tamed. Maura, who played the other day at Gleneagles with one of the Miguels, is not exactly an attractive player, but is a strong one, and Rezola has plenty of length if he is not always rigidly straight. They buckled to so well on the way home—I heard talk of 35s or 36s—that the British pair, without playing badly, only just kept their noses in front.

Beharrell and Thirlwell made just such another good recovery and, having been at one time three down to the Belgians, Rolin and Moerman, finished two up. I thought Rolin, who, incidentally, is an Old Marlburian, had, perhaps, the best and most graceful swing in the whole field. It was a real joy to see him drive, and his partner too, looked a thorough golfer.

So far there was really very little in it, and our joy might easily be turned into weeping. The afternoon might be painfully critical, but, in fact—perhaps the pressure of the better golfers began to tell—all went well for the British Isles, and for their anxious supporters the play was almost pleasantly dull. Carr and Wolstenholme continued to play well; they were four up at the turn, and cantered easily home. They never visited the woodlands from the tee, and when they are so virtuous they are a truly formidable pair. Caldwell and Bussell played much better than before and beat their Swedish adversaries, good golfers both, in particular Bielke, with fair comfort. This time de Lamaze tried demoniacally hard, but Reid Jack and Shepperson hung on to their lead and were not to be dispossessed. Duncan and Tate again got away with a rush and now they kept their lead and won by 3 and 2. So did Beharrell and Thirlwell, but they had a hard fight for it, for the Belgians were one up at the tenth, the British pair having putted near to lamentably. Then Thirlwell holed a good one, and after that the British pair always looked like winning and well and truly took their chances.

So ended a good day's work which must have pleased our hard-working selectors, and also their captain, Gerald Micklem, who has just been announced as captain of next year's Walker Cup team. I thought the tee shots of our side were as a whole rather more erratic than they ought to have been even in a gusty and difficult wind. Wentworth is not so narrow as to justify overmuch crookedness; but, perhaps, I am hypercritical and, generally speaking, they quitted themselves like men.



L. REZOLA, OF SPAIN, WHO WITH I. MAURA LOST IN THE FOURSOMES TO G. T. DUNCAN AND J. K. TATE

So long a lead in the foursomes inspired a certain feeling of complacency. At the same time one also had the feeling that the opposition had not so far done itself justice and would be more formidable on the second day. The morning's play justified such a foreboding. At one time the British side had five men down and only two up. At lunch they led in five matches to four with one all square. Reid Jack made a great spurt against Thygesen, of Denmark, a player with a notably fine swing, and having been once three down ended two up. Caldwell had a disastrous start against another new player, Sellschopp, of Germany, and was five down with five to play. He pulled himself together, won four in a row and so ended well within striking distance. Wolstenholme and Carr were always a little in front and Shepperson, a brave sticker, got two holes back from Barras out of a deficit of four, but Tate had a bad day and at five down seemed on the point of destruction. It is fair to add that his enemy, Bielke of Sweden, had greatly come on and was playing as we had been told he could—that is, very well. Thirlwell, who is putting admirably with a large-headed wooden bludgeon, was four up on the other Swede, Werkell.

On the whole the state of the match was reasonably comfortable, but no more, and the European cohorts had certainly given their proofs.

CRANBURY PARK, HAMPSHIRE—I

THE HOME OF MRS. TANKERVILLE CHAMBERLAYNE

By GORDON NARES

The existing house was designed in the 1780s or '90s by George Dance for his sister-in-law, Mrs. Dummer, subsequently Lady Dance-Holland. This article is concerned mainly with the history of Cranbury before the advent of Dance.

AMONG those who came from Normandy to England with the Conqueror was William, Count of Tankerville or Tancarville, eldest son of Raoul, Count of Tankerville, tutor to William the Conqueror and hereditary Chamberlain to the Dukes of Normandy. After the Conquest Count William returned to Normandy, where the elder line of the family lived for several centuries—the ruined *château* of Tancarville may still be seen overlooking the mouth of the Seine near Havre—but a younger son, John, settled in England and became Chamberlain to Henry I. John's son, Sir Richard, was Chamberlain to King Stephen and his grandson Sir William was Chamberlain to Henry II. Richard de Tankerville, indeed, assumed the surname of Chamberlain or Chamberlayne. From William Chamberlayne's grandson, Sir John, several branches of the family stemmed: the senior branch settled at Shirburn, in Oxfordshire, and there were cadet branches in Hampshire and Gloucestershire. The Gloucestershire Chamberlaynes were so numerous in the 16th century, it is said, that a jury of gentlemen could not be empanelled in the shire without one of their relations serving on it. From this ancient stock William Chamberlayne, of Coley Park, Berkshire, who inherited Cranbury in 1781, claimed descent.

1.—A FRAGMENT OF NETLEY ABBEY, WITH THE HOUSE IN THE DISTANCE. Part of the Abbey, on Southampton Water, was dismantled about 1760 and rebuilt at Cranbury

2.—THE NETLEY ABBEY ARCH AND A GOTHIC TOWER DISGUISING A COTTAGE

William Chamberlayne, Solicitor to the Treasury, was an extremely wealthy man and besides Coley Park owned estates in Kent, Herefordshire and Hampshire. He came into Cranbury and other estates in south Hampshire under the will of his lifelong friend, Thomas Dummer, who died in 1781 and left them to William Chamberlayne and his heirs subject to the life interest of his wife, daughter of Sir Cecil Bisshop, Bt., of Parham. William Chamberlayne died in 1790 and was succeeded by his son William, who, like his father, was Solicitor to the Treasury. He was also M.P. for Southampton and a patron of artists, a friend of Cobbett, Sir William Hamilton, Miss Mitford and Samuel Parr, and an admirer of Charles James Fox, whose bust by Nollekens stands in the hall at Cranbury and to whose memory he erected a column at Weston Grove, his house on Southampton Water, where he lived until Thomas Dummer's widow died in 1825.

Nine years after her husband's death in 1781, Mrs. Dummer had married Nathaniel Dance, or Sir Nathaniel Dance-Holland, Bt., as he became in 1800. Nathaniel Dance was the third son of George Dance, senior, architect of the Mansion House, and brother of George Dance, junior. Stylistically, there can be no doubt that the younger Dance largely rebuilt Cranbury, and the house (Fig. 4) must be added to the lamentably small list of surviving buildings by this extremely interesting and original architect, who had remained comparatively unappreciated until the publication of Mr. John Summerson's *Heavenly Mansions* (1949) and his biography of Sir John Soane, who was Dance's pupil. Miss Dorothy Stroud has kindly pointed out to me that there are references to a chimney-piece at Cranbury in Soane's notebooks for 1781 and 1784, at a time when he was working for Dance. So it seems that Dance's work must have been begun before his brother married the rich Mr. Dummer. However, his work at Cranbury will be considered in the next article, and meanwhile

the earlier history of Cranbury must be explored.

The house lies in the large parish of Hursley, almost equidistant from Winchester, Southampton and Romsey. It stands on the edge of an escarpment that falls precipitously to the north, forming a kind of amphitheatre. This, with the presence of several tumuli near by, has given rise to the tradition that there was an ancient settlement at Cranbury, but it is not recorded in *The Victoria County History*, and, indeed, there is no mention of Cranbury until the 16th century, when there seems to have been a hamlet of copyhold tenements held of the manor of Merdon. This manor, named after an ancient castle in the parish of Hursley, was granted to the bishops of Winchester in the 7th century and remained in their possession until the reign of Edward VI. Subsequent lords of the manor were Hobys, Clerkes, Arundells and Napiers. Gerard Napier, son of Sir Nathaniel Napier, of Crichel, sold the manor in 1638 to Richard Major or Mayor, who did "usurp authority over his tenants," according to one of them, when "King Charles was put to death and Oliver Cromwell was Protector of England and Richard Major was of his Privy Council and Noll's eldest son Richard was married to Mr. Major's Doll." Richard Cromwell lived at Hursley from the time of his marriage to Dorothy Major in 1649 until he became Protector after his father's death in 1658. Following his return incognito to England about 1680, Cromwell was involved in litigation with his children about the ownership of the manor, and the matter was settled only a few years before his death in 1712. He was buried at Hursley and his daughters lived there until 1718, when they sold the manor of Merdon to Sir William Heathcote. Sir William's successors owned it for nearly two centuries.

Early records of Cranbury are concerned primarily with the continual disputes between the copyhold tenants and the lords of the manor. About 1602 Sir Thomas Clerke revived the feudal custom of "haydobyn days," during which the tenants had to reap and stack the lord's corn, while their own crops remained uncut. During the days of this unpopular service the lord had to provide breakfast and dinner for the workers. According to the tenant who has already been quoted, one day "the cart brought a field for

3.—THE ENTRANCE TO THE FORECOURT

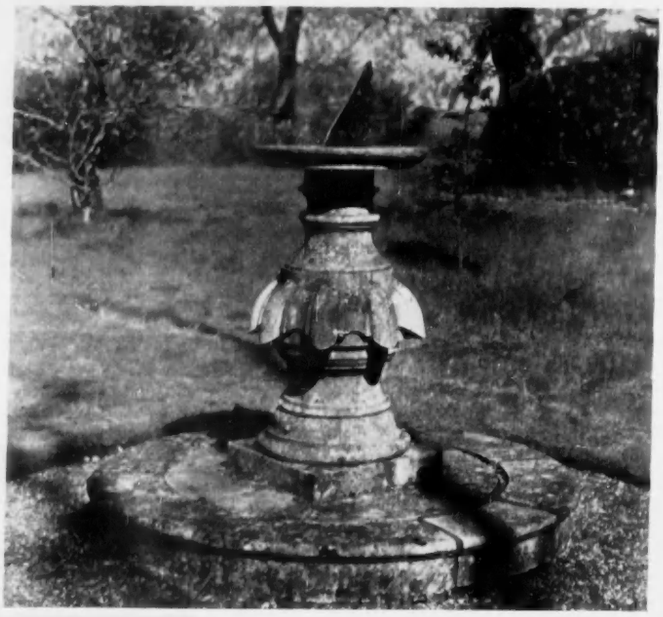
4.—THE SOUTH AND EAST FRONTS

5.—THE POOL IN THE LANDSCAPE GARDEN ON THE SLOPE TO THE NORTH OF THE HOUSE

them a hogshead of porridge, which stunk, and had worms swimming in it. The reapers refused to work without better provisions. Mr. Coram, of Cranbury, would not suffer them to work. Mr. Pye, Sir Thos. Clerke's steward, and Coram drew their daggers and rode at each other through the wheat." There were further acrimonious disputes during the lordship of Richard Major and Richard Cromwell, culminating in a Chancery suit that began in 1692 and lasted for several years. In all these altercations the holders of Cranbury were prominent.

The earliest known proprietor of Cranbury was called Shoveller, and he was succeeded before 1580 by Roger Coram, "a jealous assertor of the tenants' rights against the lord of the manor." Coram was followed by Sir Edward Richards, who leased the property at the beginning of the Civil War to Dr. John Young, Dean of Winchester. Dr. Young's sister-in-law held the property from about 1650 until 1665, when it seems to have passed to Sir Charles Wyndham, who married her daughter in that year. On Lady Wyndham's death in 1720 Cranbury was sold to John Conduit or Conduitt, friend of Sir Isaac Newton, whom he succeeded as Master of the Mint and whose step-niece and heir, Catherine Barton, he married in 1727. Between 1720 and his death in 1727 Newton visited Cranbury often, and he is said to have designed the sundial which stands in the garden there (Fig. 6). The support of the gnomon is pierced with a monogram, which one may decipher as J. C. for John Conduit, and on the bronze dial is engraved an almost obliterated coat-of-arms—presumably Conduit impaling Barton—and the inscription "John Rowley Lond. Fecit." A terra-cotta bust of Newton, signed by Rysbrack, and identical with the bust at Trinity College, Cambridge, is preserved at Cranbury. A marble version of this bust can be seen above the chimney-piece in Hogarth's famous conversation piece in Lord Ilchester's collection, showing children performing Dryden's *The Indian Emperor* before a distinguished audience in John Conduit's house—probably his London house, not Cranbury. This bust is in Lord Portsmouth's collection: John and Catherine Conduit's only child, Catherine, married Lord Lymington in 1740 and their eldest son succeeded his grandfather as second Earl of Portsmouth.

John Conduit died in 1737 and was buried alongside Newton in Westminster Abbey. Cranbury was then bought by Thomas Lee Dummer, member of a Hampshire family long established in the neighbourhood. He died in 1765 and was succeeded by his son Thomas, whose name appears in a list, published in 1789, of 40 noblemen and 16 commoners whose incomes exceeded £20,000 a year. Thomas Dummer, as we have seen, left his fortune to his friend, William Chamberlayne.



6.—SUNDIAL SAID TO HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY SIR ISAAC NEWTON

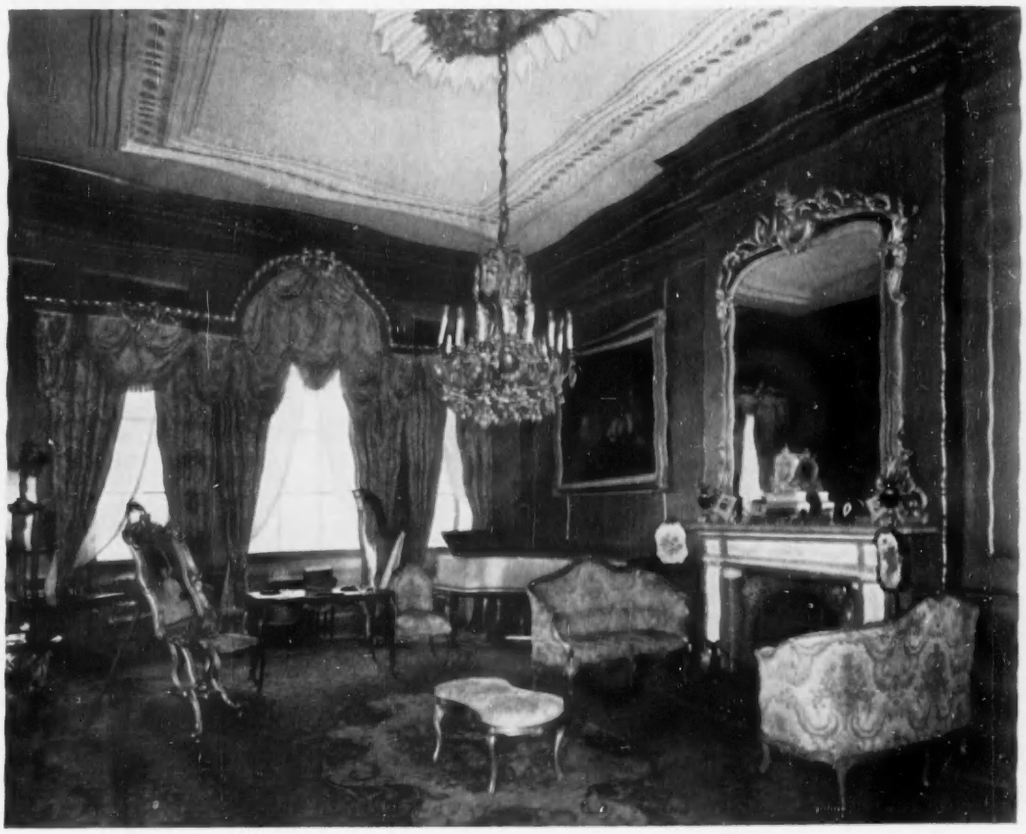
Among the numerous properties owned by the Dummer family were the ruins of Netley Abbey, on Southampton Water, which were bought by Thomas Lee Dummer before 1765, but which were sold the following year to William Chamberlayne the elder. According to Woodward's *History of Hampshire* (1861-9), "Mr. Dummer enclosed the ruins or the chief part of them, with a wall, and otherwise cared for their preservation." At the beginning of the century Netley had been bought by Walter Taylor, a carpenter of Southampton, who disregarded a dream that he would die if he began to dismantle the Abbey for building materials—and duly died under the surgeon's knife after a stone had fallen on his head. Thomas Lee Dummer (or possibly his son) was not entirely guiltless, for, although he made good Taylor's depredations, he removed part of the north transept and rebuilt it

7.—THE SUMMER-HOUSE, PROBABLY DESIGNED BY GEORGE DANCE

at Cranbury as a picturesque feature of the landscape (Figs. 1 and 2). John Duthy, who was possibly not aware of the origin of these remains, wrote rather scathingly in his *Sketches of Hampshire* (1839): "Should the antiquary be tempted, by the name, to visit the ruins in the park of Cranbury, his recompense will be the discovery of 'a modern antique,' suited only for the meridian of Vauxhall." Thomas Dummer also had his eye on the ancient Butter Cross at Winchester to enliven the park at Cranbury, and in 1770 he persuaded the paving commissioners to sell it to him, but the citizens of Winchester rioted and refused to let it be taken away.

To Thomas Dummer, or possibly his widow, Lady Dance-Holland, must be due the laying out of the grounds to the north of the house, where the escarpment is thickly planted with beeches, oaks and limes, pierced by broad rides that intersect at a circular pool half way down the slope. This pool can be seen in Fig. 5, in which we are looking from the north front of the house down the central ride towards the downs that encircle Winchester. On one of the transverse rides, shrouded in rhododendrons, is a spring in a grotto, on the walls of which are inscribed the following lines written by Wordsworth while on a visit to Cranbury:

Gentle reader, view in me
An emblem of true charity
Who while my bounty I bestow
Am neither heard nor seen to flow
For every drop of water given
Repaid by fresh supplies from Heaven.



8.—THE DRAWING-ROOM, IN THE SOUTH FRONT

At the head of this ride, to the north-west of the house, is the summer-house illustrated in Fig. 7. This graceful building, which has unfortunately been partially in ruins since the war, is built of pale yellow brick, and has a very slightly bowed front. The curve is echoed in the flanking circular colonnades, which have Tuscan columns with an exaggerated echinus below the square abacus, such as Dance used on the staircase at Ashburnham Place, Sussex, and elsewhere. There is every probability that this summer-house was designed by him when he was working at Cranbury.

Nothing is known of the style or appearance of the house that stood at Cranbury before Dance rebuilt it, though one may imagine its size reflected the Conduits' and Dummers' importance. The present house is wholly of Dance's period or of the mid 19th century—when there were considerable additions — with the exception of the decoration of the drawing-room or oak saloon (Figs. 8 and 9) in the south front. The panelled walls, elaborate cornice, doorways and overdoors, enriched with gilding, indicate the third or fourth decade of the 18th century, and may date from the time of Thomas Lee Dummer's purchase of Cranbury in 1737. The chimney-piece was introduced and the ceiling redecorated at a later date.

The drawing-room contains some notable furnishings, including a Savonnerie carpet, a set of Louis XV chairs and settees signed by Dubois, a harp and piano by Sebastian Erard, history paintings by Henry Thomson and several works by Reynolds, including a version of *The Infant Samuel*. They are overshadowed, however, by three paintings of Lady Hamilton as a Bacchante, which are believed to have been bought by William Chamberlayne from Emma after Nelson's death. One is by Madame Vigée le Brun, another by Reynolds and the third (Fig. 9)—surely one of the most famous and familiar pictures in the world—by Romney.

(*To be continued on November 8*)

9.—A CORNER OF THE DRAWING-ROOM. On the right is Romney's portrait of Lady Hamilton as a Bacchante

SHEEP OF AN ATLANTIC SHORE

Written and Illustrated by G. KENNETH WHITEHEAD

CLADDAGH EWE AND LAMB FROM GALWAY BAY IN WESTERN IRELAND. There are few pure-bred Claddagh left, as they have been widely crossed with the Galway. (*Right*) CLADDAGH RAM WITH ONE MALFORMED HORN. An adult ram stands about 21 inches at the shoulder and weighs about 60 lb.

IN former times there were a number of native breeds of sheep in Ireland; but, owing to livestock schemes administered by the Government that have been in operation since the last century, more popular breeds have been introduced, with the result that all the old breeds, with possibly one exception, have either died out entirely or been crossed to some extent. The one exception is the small native Claddagh sheep, which is found along the western sea-coast, principally around Galway Bay, but its numbers are fast diminishing.

Originally the Claddagh sheep was probably distributed along the whole of the west coast of Ireland from Donegal to Kerry, as well as on many of the larger islands such as Aran, but to-day it is difficult to find, in any district, many pure-bred specimens. On Aran itself, the old type has disappeared as a result of crossing the ewes with the Galway ram, and to-day the sheep on this island are a modified form of the Galway. Opposite Aran, however, on the sea coast of South Connemara, and towards Galway between Rosaveal and Barna, a few Claddagh still remain, some of which are, without doubt, the purest specimens of the original breed that one is likely to find anywhere in Ireland to-day.

The loss in popularity of this breed, however, is not recent, for over a century ago W. Youatt, in *Sheep, Their Breeds, Management and Diseases* (1841), observed: "It used to be found in considerable quantities in Galway, and particularly on the Connemara mountains. Its numbers, however, are now much diminished from crosses with different breeds, but most of all, because, although there is room for the cultivation of the short-wool to a far greater extent than it has yet been carried, the general soil and pasture of Ireland are better suited to the long-woolled species, which are rapidly establishing themselves in every part of the island. No care has been taken to secure this native and valuable breed. The breeding ewes are suffered to wander on the mountains, often quite neglected, and the loss of lambs from eagles, foxes and the inclemency of the weather is enormous." Youatt says this "pure breed is termed the Cottagh sheep," but there is no doubt that he is referring to the same breed that to-day is, appropriately enough, called Claddagh sheep, which means, literally, "coast sheep."

CLADDAGH SHEEP SHELTERING UNDER A CONNEMARA WALL. The sheep used to be sheared a little at a time as the wool was needed

The Claddagh sheep—like so many other primitive breeds—is said to have had its origin in sheep that swam ashore following the wreck of many ships of the Spanish Armada off the west coast of Ireland. Connemara ponies are also supposed to have had the same origin. In ages past, however, a certain amount of trade was carried on between Ireland and Spain, and, even if they did not arrive with the Armada, it is possible that some of the trading Spaniards carried sheep as fresh meat in their ships, and surplus animals may have been cast ashore on Aran, Galway and Connemara, etc.

Most Claddagh sheep are white-faced, but one comes across some grey-faced specimens, and also an occasional russet brown or completely black animal, the result, possibly, of some cross in the past. It would seem, however, that there have always been some black sheep in Ireland, for Giraldus Cambrensis, the monkish historian of the 12th century, describes his brethren as being "lightly clad in woollen garments, barbarously shaped, and for the most part black, because the sheep of the country are black."

It would appear that in its original form the rams, which stand only about 21 to 22 ins. at the shoulder, were all horned, but one occasionally finds polled specimens to-day. The ewes, on the other hand, are mostly hornless, but here again one may occasionally see a female with small horns. Tails are of medium

length, about 9 to 10 ins., with a further 3 ins. of wool on the extremity. Other characteristics include black hoofs, a greyish-black nostril, brown eyes and a pinkish skin showing through the hair of the ears. There is frequently a black line running along the horn of the ram, which can be seen in the Portland and some other breeds. Adult rams are only slightly larger than the ewes, and will probably not exceed 60 lb. live weight. Both sexes are inclined to look a little pot-bellied.

Rams are extremely scarce, for most farmers to-day are crossing the ewes with rams of the Galway type. The draft ewes are also frequently bought by farmers in East Galway and in Leinster, and, in addition to the Galway breed, satisfactory crosses have been made with the Suffolk, Cheviot and Border Leicester breed. In North Connemara crosses have also been made with the imported Scotch Blackface.

Commenting on the Claddagh, a Galway farmer who also runs a butchering business, writes: "The Claddagh ewes make magnificent nurses. She keeps breeding almost indefinitely, so that when she gets old it is not easy to dispose of her as she won't fatten. The pure-bred lamb does not put on much flesh, a good one weighing about 40 lb. The wedder is slow to put on condition, and the best two-year-olds would not weigh more than about 45 lb. They are mostly killed locally for hotels, etc. One peculiarity about them is that the wedders and lambs are very bare of flesh on the upper part of the body, yet their breasts are quite fat and they contain an unusually large amount of tallow." Their rough and active life is, of course, not conducive to heavy weights.

The ewes normally lamb in April and, if allowed to, tend to wander off to some remote place to have their lambs. Occasionally they will lamb down on the ledge of some rocky face overlooking the sea so precipitous as to defy the approach of a shepherd with his dog. It is not surprising, therefore, to find the sheep invariably hobbled. Even so, the walls of Connemara are easily surmounted by these agile animals. In former times it would seem that twins were common, but nowadays it is rare except in the case of the cross-bred ewes.

Shearing takes place in May or early June, according to the weather. The wool is short and rather coarse, and the fleece from a two-year-old wedder will not weigh more than 4 lb., the average being, perhaps, a pound less. Compared with Cheviot wool, Claddagh wool in 1954 fetched 3d. per lb. less in Galway—i.e. 4s. 9d. per lb. as against 5s.

During last century it was the practice to cut the wool from the Claddagh sheep only when it was required for a particular garment, and even up to the last war it appears that this practice had not entirely disappeared. Describing this somewhat singular method of shearing, Youatt writes: "The wool is cut as it is wanted, and one sheep is seen with one side shorn and another with a single limb clipped. When a woman wants a little wool in order to finish her work, she trips away to the mountain, claps the sheep's head between her knees, and shears just as much as she thinks will complete her task. The same sheep is often shorn three times in the year, and this operation is not confined to the summer months. It is thought, but to a considerable degree erroneously, that the animal suffers little from this singular practice."

The little Claddagh sheep is, and probably always has been, the smallholder's sheep for not only are they extremely hardy, but they possess a natural freedom from scab and thus do not need to be dipped. This independence, therefore, made them an ideal breed for the Galway fishermen who liked to run an old sheep or two on the coast near their homes. There are not so many coastal fishermen in these parts to-day, however, and as already mentioned there has been a big drive in recent years to replace the more primitive sheep with the Scotch Blackface and Cheviot breeds. There seems danger, therefore, that the Claddagh sheep may be lost for ever.

A PLEA FOR THE BIRCH TREE

By J. D. U. WARD

NOW, when the birches are showing more gold than silver, they are receiving many a well-deserved glance of admiration. They merit a thought as well. The words of Coleridge about the

most beautiful
Of forest trees, the Lady of the Woods

are often quoted, but this particular lady has little honour in her English homes: she is more commonly treated as a weed (that is, a plant out of place) than as a rightful occupier and a useful member of the woodland community.

Birch is a quick-growing tree and it has, from the forester's point of view, one bad fault: it smothers and whips other more valuable trees. Because birch grows readily from the minute seed (about 800,000 to the lb.), which it spills upon the woodland floor, and because it is one of the least palatable of all species to rabbits, it has been at a great natural advantage when growing in competition with more precious timber trees. Hence what may seem to be the savage jealousy of foresters, as revealed by the use of the destroying axe.

Gradually, however, other points of view are being appreciated. The qualities of birch as a pioneer on some very poor soils—to prepare the way for more exacting trees—are receiving mention in research reports; the development of plywood is increasing the potential timber value of well-grown birch trees; and there is recognition that the smothering and whipping faults of birch can be much reduced by intelligent silviculture without entirely eliminating birch. Further, birch is a soil-improver—most particularly when it is sprinkled through conifer plantations so that the leaves fall among the carpet of tough needles and help them to rot into a healthy humus.

The past contempt for birch trees and timber has been something of a British peculiarity. In Scandinavian countries—notably in Denmark and Sweden—birch has been and is regarded more respectfully by foresters. Most of the modern Scandinavian furniture whose designs are much admired is of birch, and within the last 25 years there has been extensive research into the genetics of those exceptional trees (of the same species as our familiar *Betula verrucosa*) which yield the handsome veneers known as ice birch, curly birch and flamy birch. With these decorative timbers, unheard of in most English woods, birch rises from the humble turnery, brush-back and ordinary plywood ranks to compete with more costly species in fine cabinet work.

Birch's reputation as a tree of beauty has been tarnished by undiscriminating estate developers who have used our less silvery and less desirable species (*Betula pubescens*), or poor mis-shapen specimens of *B. verrucosa*, as quick-growing decorations for raw front gardens. There have then been unkind, but not wholly unjustified, comments about trees which looked as though they had been made of putty or clay unskilfully camouflaged with silver paper. Where the whitest possible bark is desired, the nearly related Canadian paper birch (the *Betula papyrifera*, with whose bark the Indians covered their canoes) may sometimes be preferred to our own indigenous trees.

One minor good quality of birch is now little known—the scent of Russian leather. That fragrance, which seems to have gone the same way as the scent of Harris tweed, came from the aromatic birch oil used in dressing the leather. But birch has another more easily obtained perfume: encourage a small piece of bark to smoulder and then lift it off the fire, and you will have the essence of scented wood smoke.

BIRCH TREES, WHICH TEND, SAYS THE AUTHOR, TO BE UNDULY NEGLECTED BY THE FORESTER

A LION SAVED FROM EXTINCTION

By **LEE MERRIAM TALBOT**

AT the time of Christ the Asiatic or Indian lion was so much a part of everyday life that it is mentioned over 100 times in the Scriptures. Carved in stone, images of the Lion of Asia guarded and embellished the greatest cities of the Middle Eastern world. Less than a century ago lions were still found widely spread throughout their former great range and were even regarded as common in parts of Asia Minor and Persia.

Hunting the lion was traditionally the sport of kings and princes. Its strength and bravery made it a worthy and sporting opponent for a man with hand weapons. But these same qualities doomed the lion when the man he faced held a gun. Country by country, as modern rifles came the lion went; until, by the end of the 19th century, the last known surviving population of Indian lions was in the Forest of Gir on the Gujerat Peninsula in north-west India. This population was estimated at less than a dozen.

At that time the area of the Gujerat Peninsula was divided into over two hundred small princely states, each ruled by a maharajah or prince. This fact, combined with the inaccessibility of the area and local religious convictions that prohibited killing most wild animals, had made this place serve well for the lion's last stand. At the end of the century, when the desperate state of the lions was realised, the British administration and the local rulers declared the lions totally protected. They have remained so to the present time, the new Indian Government taking a keen interest in conserving these animals that are their national emblem.

Because the Indian lion is one of the rarest animals in the world, it was of great interest to the Survival Service, an organisation concerned with the continued survival of species of animals and birds that are threatened with extinction. The Survival Service is a part of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. The I.U.C. is a Unesco-sponsored, international organisation dedicated to the preservation and wise use of the riches of the earth. Founded in 1948 at Fontainebleau, it includes among its membership eight member governments and over 200 organisations and public services from 50 countries.

As part of the Survival Service programme for 1955 I was sent on a six months' mission through some 30 countries of North Africa, the Middle East and Southern Asia to survey the status of some of the world's rarest animals. In July I found myself in Bombay, making arrangements to visit the Gir Forest with the Bombay Natural History Society and the Indian Board for Wild Life. These two groups, Indian members of the I.U.C., represented the organised interest in, and activity for the conservation of, India's wild-life resources.

Getting to the Forest of Gir is a problem in itself. The first step is a two-stage 'plane ride to Rajkot, capital of Saurashtra (the new Indian state that has been formed from the two-hundred-odd former princely states). After the necessary formalities there, accomplished in the stifling pre-monsoon heat, comes an all-night train ride.

The Gir Forest is the only real forest area within about 300 miles in any direction. Approaching it in the first flat light of dawn, the train pulled through rolling, arid pasture lands with occasional patches of dry farming. Small, umbrella-like acacias were the only trees, and they were scarce. Rugged volcanic upcroppings broke the monotony here and there. Grazing beside the track were a few chital, big, whitish deer, undisturbed by our slow noisy passage. Showy peacocks and their more sombre peahens were everywhere. In Saurashtra they are considered sacred and are consequently quite tame. I was to see much of them during my days in the forest; often they would launch themselves screaming from a branch directly overhead and trail their magnificent green tails down the track ahead of the jeep or ox cart. Starting with scattered thorny bushes, grading into acacia and teak, the forest took shape on the rough hills beside the track.

HEAD OF AN INDIAN LION, ONE OF THE RAREST ANIMALS IN THE WORLD. It is still found in the Forest of Gir in the north-west of India, where it is now protected

A TYPICAL FOREST SCENE IN THE GIR MOUNTAINS

The area that is known as the Forest is a rambling tract about 20 by 40 miles at its widest dimensions, and roughly 480 square miles in extent. The central core of the forest is of dry, mixed, deciduous type, mostly teak. It resembles the rather dense, deciduous forests of northern Europe or the eastern United States. Unlike these, however, the teak is broken here and there by an island of banyan trees, standing green and aloof on their many trunks. Wherever a river bed or *nullah* cuts the forest it is accompanied by a belt of evergreen trees and brush extending some yards on either side. It is here that the lions lie up during the heat of the day.

Surrounding the teak core of the forest, and probably covering at least an equal area, is thorny scrub growth alternating with grass land. In fact, this thorn scrub, flanked by rugged basalt crags, is considered more typical of the remaining forest than is the teak. With the commercially valuable timber mostly long since removed, the remnant teak and second growth has been described as a forester's nightmare.

My first feeling on entering the forest was of surprise, then amazement, at the remarkable human and animal population. Wherever I went herds of rangy, semi-starved Brahma cattle and water buffalo were always in sight. They are kept by Chavans,

a nomadic people who make their living selling *ghee*, a kind of rancid butter made from water buffalo milk. The Chavans' homes are moved from place to place as their animals follow feed and water. A home or *ness* usually consists of several reed-and-wattle huts surrounded by a thorn lion fence. Each evening the herds are driven into the thorn enclosures, and in the morning they are turned out to graze.

When I arrived at the forest headquarters, the little town of Sasan-Gir, the forest officers had sent out trackers to try to find lions for me. The area is run by the forest department, who are trying to manage the forest by carrying on a certain amount of lumbering and forest improvement, while looking out for the interests of the lions. Their greatest problem is overgrazing by tens of thousands of cattle and buffalo, which has largely turned 60 per cent. of the forest into desert in the last half-century. When the lions' forest home goes, they must go too.

However, they have not reached that state yet. Since they were declared protected 50 years ago, the handful of lions has increased into a population numbering between two and three hundred. Throughout the years the only lions that have been killed have been the few that became particularly troublesome to the forest's neighbours and a few which have been hunted yearly as trophies for visiting dignitaries. The Indian lion is supposed to be a little smaller and darker than its African relative. I had heard so much of this almost legendary animal that, now I was on the spot, I felt most impatient to see one. I did not have long to wait.

The Indian forest officer and I drove back to Sasan-Gir after spending the afternoon and part of the evening looking over parts of the forest and vainly trying to see lions in every bush and *nullah*. Now we were thinking of the curry dinner awaiting us as the jeep bounced the 150 steep yards up the village main street and swung into the headquarters compound.

The breathless figure who stumbled into the dim light of the kerosene lamp was a local shikari tracker. Clad only in ragged shorts, a large knife and dusty-white turban and gripping an ancient flintlock musket, he had run several miles to tell us of a lion he had just found. Gone was any thought of soreness or hunger! The officer and I jumped back into the jeep and the shikari attached himself to the front fender to guide us. Following his pointed directions, we bounced back down the street and out through the teak forest, across a shallow river and into the scrub country. At one point two porcupines scuttled out of the way, and further on a pair of eyes in the headlights turned out to be a startled wild pig.

After what seemed a very long time the headlights picked up two more tall, turbaned and musket-armed shikaris waiting beside a lone tree. They pointed off into the darkness, held a conference with our fender-riding guide, then climbed into the back of the open jeep and we bounced off again into the darkness, this time much more slowly.

A hundred yards further on we rounded a thorn patch and there in the headlights, lying full length in the short grass, was a magnificent Indian lion. We cut the engine and for a time the only sound was our breathing. The great cat looked into the headlights, then blinked and rose out of the grass, stretching as he did so like a contented tabby cat at the fireside. But what a cat! The shikaris raised their muzzle-loaders, the brass fittings gleaming in the moonlight. But without so much as a backward glance, and with the utmost dignity, the great cat padded silently off into the dark.

We were so eager to keep the headlights on him, that we started the jeep, spun round a small acacia—and dropped right into a pit some native had dug. After we had sorted ourselves out it took us a good twenty minutes to dig our jeep from the hole. The trackers insisted that the lion had gone, but I noticed that while we dug they, as well as I, kept looking apprehensively out into the blackness.

Finally, the jeep was free and we climbed in, the first shikari again seating himself on the fender. The officer started the engine and switched on the lights, and we all jumped—the shikari on the front fender, in fact, jumped clear into the back of the jeep, landing amid much clattering of rifles and consternation. Again immediately in front of us lay the lion. Once more he eyed us a few moments, rose and stretched and padded off. Apparently he had just come back to watch us dig out the jeep.

This lion's lack of any concern about humans was characteristic of the other lions I saw later during my stay in the Gir. Their indifference to man is a tribute to the protection they have received so far. Their continued protection, however, will depend on saving their home from cattle as much as saving themselves from man. But India is justly proud of having preserved the last survivors of a great race, and she means to ensure that they continue to survive.

A COUNTRYWOMAN'S NOTES

By EILUNED LEWIS

ONE of the words of which I have grown wary with the passing years is reorganisation. The thing reorganised is generally something harmless and pleasant, and the change almost invariably for the worse. When recently our admirable postman dismounted from his bicycle and handed me our afternoon mail (this second post, coming so pleasantly at tea-time, was one of the first casualties of the war, and glad we were to see it reinstated) he remarked: "It won't be much longer now. I've done this round for twenty-two years, and there's only four weeks left."

"Are you retiring, then?" I asked, surprised, for no one could look more active and wiry.

"No, but they're sending a van out here. It's a case of reorganisation. I'll be doing the new estate."

He looked quite dejected at the prospect, and we are sorry, too, for we shall lose a good friend, and the van is certain to be in a tearing hurry. No one would think of calling out to a scarlet post-office vehicle, "Could you wait a minute while I finish this letter?" Nor do I think it will prove so efficient, for vans are known to break down and get stuck in the snow. Nothing of that sort ever happened to our postman. It was clear also that he will mind leaving the round of farms and cottages and the road winding into the Weald down which he and his bicycle sped twice a day through all sorts of weather. There was time to think on that journey, and our postman is a philosopher. He seemed to think he would need all his philosophy in dealing with the new housing estate.

It was, I think, the postman of our childhood who was said to have walked a distance equal to the circumference of the globe. In that case his wits had not greatly benefited from the daily trudge to the top of the adjoining parish and down again, collecting the letters on his way back each evening. He also sold us stamps and weighed our parcels on the kitchen scales, while the maids regaled him with cups of tea and disputed his arithmetic. The arguments were sometimes prolonged and there was some scorn in the household for his mathematical abilities. I remember being secretly pleased that someone else was even worse at sums than I was myself. Looking back, in this hurried epoch, it is strange to think that the one item which never disturbed anyone's calculation was the question of time.

* * *

TO exchange in deepest autumn a London square for the country is a reversal of accepted behaviour, except for sportsmen. Among the winter diversions of town life I reckon high the lectures of learned societies, where the most ignorant and foolish persons can catch a few crumbs as they fall from the wise man's table. One such we had already attended on a wet evening near Manchester square, and came away regretting that we should garner no more.

'Tis a dull sight
To see the year dying,

sang Edward Fitzgerald, and went on to recommend a course of reading in "an old room beside a bright fire," and

never look out
Nor attend to the blast,
For all to be seen
Is the leaves falling fast.

This, being a poet's view of life in the country, need not be taken seriously by anyone of sense, yet it would be true to say that I looked forward to finding most of my mental nourishment in books for the next few months.

How mistaken I was: we had not been settled for more than two days when a lecture by an archaeologist of international fame was announced in the village hall of the next parish, one which proved a great deal more interesting and diverting than any we were missing elsewhere. To begin with, the lecturer was on her native heath, welcomed with affection and respect by old friends. Then there was the audience itself. In London one might have been sobered by the sight of ten-thousand-year-old skeletons shown on the lantern screen. Man, buried in a crouching attitude, surrounded by his useless pots and weapons, is not an uplifting spectacle. I recalled the anonymous and studious faces of a London gathering, and felt that the vanity and brevity of human life were best contemplated in the warm and kindly presence of one's neighbours. How can the mind dwell for long on the skulls of 8,000 B.C. when able to study at the same time the highly individual physiognomies of the parish worthies; how do other than rejoice when the lecturer remarked drily of one slide, "It *was* upside down and back to front, and now it's sideways"?

We were shown a fascinating reconstruction of the earliest civilisation; spacious and solidly built rooms, with rush mats on their polished floors and rounded dust-cheating corners which might have been the envy of any up-to-date A.D. hospital. Has the human species advanced at all, one began to wonder. Then round came the cups of hot tea and the generous sandwiches, and the chairman's announcement that handicraft evenings would begin at the end of October with a course of instruction in basket-making and the quilting of cushion covers. Materially we may have progressed a very little way; much less than some of our modern thinkers would suppose. What matters and what lasts is man's aspiring spirit, and that evening the spirit of neolithic man was astonishingly close and alive.

* * *

HERE is a postscript to my morning's cub-hunting on foot with Richard, which I described in my notes of September 27. At the close of the next day, as I was giving the bees their autumn syrup in the robin-sweet dusk, a stranger entered the garden and bade me good evening. "It's my boy," he added shyly. "He told me you had some bees under your roof, and maybe I could help."

I showed him the place, where one of the hung tiles was missing, and he studied it carefully. "Leave them till the spring," he said firmly. "End of March, maybe, when they start flying. I'll get them out for you all right."

"Your boy was a very good companion the other day," I remarked. "Was he? I think he's a proper nuisance." It was said with a happy grin, and then he told me about the swarm he lost this summer, and the badger's set he'd found in the wood, and one thing and another. I'm looking forward already to the end of March, next year.

MORE DAYS IN A DOG'S LIFE

By SUZETTE (set down by her mistress, Lady Holman)

YOU have heard of me before*. I am a much travelled dachshund, having been behind the Iron Curtain and followed my master around in his diplomatic posts. I am now living in retirement.

My last post was Cuba, and for a dog I had some unusual experiences there. I am not an aristocratic lady, as my father was picked up in the streets of Bucharest and chosen for his athletic prowess. My mother came from the best European family. Even so, my feelings were very hurt (as I always understood that I took after my mother in appearance and my father in character) when I was acting as mascot for a royal personage in a Cuban golf tournament. I heard him tell my mistress that he had never seen a longer dachshund. I was not sorry when he lost every hole after this rudeness, and I gave up following him round the course.

One day I fell very ill in Havana, but luckily I had a wonderful doctor, who visited me twice a day and pumped into me every drug he could obtain. My mistress fed me on a bottle for five days and even called in a visiting specialist, who told her that, if I were human, he would not hold out much hope. I refused all dog food, so was given the choicest of baby delicacies and even chicken. My doctor took me to his own home, as he said I was playing up too much. He called me the clown. I slept between him and his wife, who, being French, was an excellent cook. My first solid meal was *boeuf à la mode*, and I was also given vanilla ice-cream, which I enjoyed. On this diet I made a complete recovery. When I heard my master coming to visit me, I put on a very sick dog face and pretended that I could not get out of my bed, so was petted and made much of.

I lived a very happy life for several years in Cuba, as there was plenty of game to hunt, such as land crabs, cats and rats and I even got a mongoose. I soon learned that scorpions and tarantulas were not to be attacked, so I had a special bark for these enemies, appealing for human help.

All good things come to an end, for I noticed signs of packing and I was fitted with warm coats. Then I found myself being stuffed into a zip-bag with just my head showing. It was most undignified. I was carried in this bag up a steep gangway by a uniformed messenger on to a cargo boat. A friend of my mistress pinned a fox's tail to the other end of the bag, so I looked half fox and was very cross, as people laughed at me. We spent three days in this boat, but it took me twenty-four hours to realise that the metal deck had to serve as a nice piece of grass or a lamp-post. My master and mistress spent their time running me up and down the deck till nature was too much. Then I felt much better.

On arriving in New York, some very rough dockers, seeing my head at one end of the bag and a tail at the other, cried "Tally-ho." I answered to the best of my ability with loud hunting yelps.

We spent two nights in a flat in New York, where I was left alone a great deal, but I felt safe, having my blanket to sleep on, and I knew I was not forgotten. I had a wonderful chase after squirrels in Central Park, as I had never seen animals that ran up trees before.

I was again bundled into my zip-bag and carried on board the *Queen Mary*. No one saw me aboard the ship, as my mistress had a coat on her arm which hid my head. I thought that I was in for a lovely trip when I took possession of a very comfortable armchair, but there was a knock on the cabin door. A man entered, saying that he was the butcher who had come to collect the dog, and take it to the kennels.

I had spent some months five years previously in quarantine kennels, so I knew what this meant. I was furious when I found myself locked into a wire cage with a large Persian cat beneath me. I thought that cats were meant to be chased and had never seen one taken for a walk with a collar and lead before. I sulked and would not eat; then I became really ill and very sea-sick. I soon found out that, if I refused all the food the butcher brought me, my master would then give me cold minced chicken. I insisted after this on eating nothing else, so he had to have lunch every day in the Verandah Grill to enable him to obtain titbits for me.

Whenever the gymnasium was shut, the instructor came up and nursed me, and even the ship's doctor was asked to pay me a professional visit, so I was kept amused. One morning my mistress came to visit me looking very sad; there was a lot of kisses and talking; then I was left alone. All noises ceased and I was very frightened. A large wooden crate was brought to my cage with a painted yellow sign marked on it: "In quarantine for rabies." A rude man pushed me inside with all my bedding, and he even wore leather gloves, being afraid that I would bite him. I could not believe that this could happen to me twice, as I had had very painful injections against this scourge every six months since I was born. The crate with me inside was pushed into the guard's van, and there I remained for hours. At last I arrived at my destination and realised where I was from all the sad barkings and cries I heard around me. A very kind lady lifted me out and I was put to bed with a hot-water bottle and given some sleeping tablets. She rang up my mistress and told her that I had arrived and was feeling a little "confused," so she had given me a sedative.

SUZETTE, THE DACHSHUND. "I have now ruled my country home for two years"

I had my own bed and bedding, but, oh, how long six months seem in a dog's life! My master visited me every fortnight, and we had a few licks together in a cold wet concrete exercise pen. I was always waiting for the bones and meat that I knew he would bring me, and was so busy with them that I never knew when he had slipped away. So I could not thank him and was taken in by his silent departure at every visit.

I realised that my imprisonment would end sometime, but I never knew why I had been put in solitary confinement, as I had not committed any really serious crime.

Just as it was beginning to get really cold, I heard my master's footsteps outside my kennel early one morning and knew that something must be happening, as my neighbour, Connie, another dachshund, had just been taken away. What a thrill, when my braces were put on and the lead attached and I was taken away from that dreadful place! I sat on my master's knee looking out of the car window, as I saw green fields for the first time and wondered what game I could find to hunt. I went nearly mad when I saw my new home, and plunged into the lake after some large white birds. I was angrily called back and smacked and told that swans were not to be chased, as they were dangerous. I soon confirmed this, as they were the first animals that had ever attacked me.

I have now ruled my country home for two years and have discovered a wonderful sport. I swim across the lake and put a coot's egg in my mouth and rest it behind my front teeth. I swim back to the bank and, if my mistress is near me, I drop the egg in the wet mud, so as not to break it. (If, however, it should break, I suck the egg dry.) Next day, when I think that no one is looking, I dig it up again and bury it with the others that I have collected. I have several caches in the wood now with three and four eggs in each. My master was very unfair, as he followed me one day and found one of my hiding-places. After I have hidden the egg, I return to the nest and sit for a while barking at the coots and lashing my tail in the water to prevent them from coming back to lay more eggs, as I don't like other animals or birds on my preserve. I am a very busy dog, as I go round visiting every nest daily and removing the eggs, whenever I find them. However, some coots have been able to avoid my vigilance and have brought up their families out of my reach.

I had a great thrill the other day, when the gardener found a rabbit in a land drain. My master held me to give the rabbit a ten-yard start, but I killed it immediately and buried it before he could reach me, and he never discovered this hiding-place of mine. Now I have enough food in my various larders, in case there is ever a food shortage.

The only time that I have really had an unpleasant encounter was with one of the farm cats. I always chase these cats, so that they should know me well by now. One Sunday afternoon, just as people were arriving to see our garden, I found the cat sitting near the lake, so I attacked. The battle lasted half an hour, my master trying to separate us with an open umbrella, but I was able to dodge behind him. Pussy was taken away and buried and my mistress was very angry with me. I was so sore that she had to ring up and ask my doctor to come and visit me. I pretended that I could use only three legs, so my master was quite sympathetic and carried me outside in my bed to enable me to reach the lawn. As soon as I thought that I was alone and not being watched, I put my bad leg down and rushed off to the wood to see if I could find the other cats.

I have managed to kill several snakes, but, so far, they have been harmless ones. I have to be very quick, so I cannot wait to ask my master whether they are adders and I must or must not attack. Every Sunday I am taken for a lovely walk and generally find some sort of game; even a mole is good enough for my larder.

I am not taken shooting, as I always seize my master's birds and bury them. He seems to want them himself.

I lead a very good social life in the village and have been christened the Princess. I refuse to be left alone in the house. Having learnt to howl while in the kennels, I am taken everywhere and at all the local functions I sit on the best chairs, and I watch the village whist drives. I enjoy my trips on the tops of buses and excursions to the seaside. I am very particular about the way that my bed is made. I sit watching my mistress preparing it at night. I will not get inside, unless she first puts in my blanket. I sometimes decide to sleep beside my master's bed, but if he seems cross with me I wait for my bed to be put beside my mistress's, as I like being covered up during the night, when the bedclothes fall off me.

I think that my happy English home life has made up for my six miserable months in those kennels. Even when it is wet and I cannot hunt outside, I find that bluebottle-chasing keeps my eye in for bigger sport, and I am very popular with my master for getting rid of these noisy insects. Good-bye.

* In *A Dog's Life*, COUNTRY LIFE, January 2, 1953.

CORRESPONDENCE

FATE OF AN OLD HOUSE

SIR,—As you are aware, Staunton Harold, the former home of the Shirleys (Earl Ferrers), was saved from threatened demolition. Another, though smaller, house built by the Shirleys in the same county of Leicestershire, Ragdale Hall, is to disappear and demolition work has started. The Leicester Museum already has some of the panelling with an ornate over-mantel dated 1631, bearing the arms and initials of Henry Shirley and his wife Dorothy Devereux. The enclosed photograph gives one some idea of the attractive south front of the house.

The disappearance of this building will mean the loss of one of the most picturesque groupings in the county, comprising the house with its old mellowed brickwork, the small church of golden brown stone and its fine churchyard cross.—CHARLES BRAMLEY, 15, *Pine Tree-avenue, Humberstone, Leicester.*

RAGDALE HALL, IN LEICESTERSHIRE, WHICH IS BEING DEMOLISHED

See letter: Fate of an Old House

THE LONGEVITY OF BORDEAUX WINES

SIR,—Captain Morley says, and rightly, that it is amazing how in one particular year the quality of wine varies tremendously between one *château* and another. The same applies, of course, to the variations from year to year, and it is in this that the fascination of claret lies.

The experts predicted that 1928 and 1929 would produce very good clarets of much the same quality. But *look what happened!* I doubt if any wine-merchant has in stock any of the excellent 1929, yet one can buy the 1928, though some of it is not yet ready to drink and may never be. I have enjoyed Ch. Desmirail '28, but Ch. Montrose is still "dumb."

I should have thought that to drink 1953 claret to-day, at any rate the *crus classés*, was infanticide. My wine-merchant tells me they will be at their peak about 1963. The 1952 clarets, another fine vintage, will not, *however, be at their best until much* later.

What with a bad year in 1954, doubled prices in Bordeaux in 1955 and a disastrous year in 1956, the 1952 clarets should be a good investment.—R. K. SPURRELL, *Mynthurst, Leigh, Reigate, Surrey.*

MYSTERY OF THE MOTHS' WINGS

SIR,—I was much interested to read in *A Countryman's Notes* of October 11 the account that a Sussex reader wrote about finding the wings of moths lying about.

We have had the same experience, except that ours have been tortoiseshell butterflies' wings. We found them all over the house, but could not find the cause until one day we found a wren when we came in. It would fly under the tables or chairs, and then one day we found it eating the body of a butterfly.

I imagine, therefore, that it must be some bird that is eating the moths.—DOROTHY M. TAYLOR (Miss), *Rock House, Morwell Down, Tavistock, Devon.*

THE WORK OF BADGERS

SIR,—We have had several wasps' nests in the hedges in our garden and have been puzzled lately to find that two of them—about four feet from the ground—had been torn to pieces.

A country-bred neighbour is convinced that this is the work of a badger. Traces of one have been found in some wooded land near by and one has been seen on our main road—a bus route well within the town boundary of Belfast. Do badgers attack wasps, and, if so, why? Surely they are not an attractive dish.—MOLLY DUFFIN (Miss), *Summer Hill, Stranmillis, Belfast.*

[The damage to the wasps' nests was almost certainly the work of a badger. Badgers are very fond of wasp larvæ and make a practice of hunting for and digging out subterranean nests. Their thick jackets and stout skins make them impervious to stings. But the badger is no climber and the hanging nests of *Vespa silvestris* and *V. norvegica* are usually out of its reach. However, a low nest may be taken. The nest shown in the accompanying photograph, taken by Miss Frances Pitt, was about four feet from the ground, and on the ground were many badger footprints. The animal had tried in vain to reach the nest, but succeeded only in tearing away a little of the paper covering.—ED.]

A WASPS' NEST DAMAGED BY BADGERS

See letter: The Work of Badgers

A TABLE OF FLEMISH ORIGIN?

SIR,—The accompanying photogrpha shows a remarkably fine piece of walnut furniture with an octagonal top four feet across, which, so far as I know, has never been reproduced before.

It is the property of Sir William Burrell, of Hulton Castle, Berwick-on-Tweed, and forms part of the very fine Burrell Collection in the art gallery and museum at Glasgow. Beneath its top is a label bearing the following inscription: "This table is bequeathed to Mrs. Bainbridge of Ashborn by the Rev. John Granville, of Calnwick. Witness his Cross." Signed: "C. Mewes, F. A. Burn, Calnwick, April ye 16 : 1825."

The table, on account of this inscription, has always been claimed to be English, but there can be little doubt that it is actually of Continental origin. It was probably executed, perhaps in this country, from a design by the Flemish artist, Hans Vriedeman de Vries, of Antwerp, who was born in 1527 and died in 1604. It bears a certain resemblance to the French walnut draw-table of the Elizabethan period with tortoise feet, now at Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire, illustrated in Percy Macquoid's *History of English Furniture—The Age of Oak* (Volume I, Fig. 90).

Can any of your readers help with the problem which this piece of furniture presents?—H. CLIFFORD SMITH, 25, *Campden-grove, Campden Hill, W.8.*

ARE RABBITS LESS INTELLIGENT?

SIR,—I am much interested in Mr. Andrew Leggatt's letter in COUNTRY LIFE of October 11. On October 14, at the second tee at Liphook, in Hampshire, three of us were allowed to approach within a few feet of two young rabbits, to watch them for a short time and to drive off from the tee and clatter away with our caddy-cars, while the rabbits remained completely undisturbed by our near presence.

Unfortunately, we did not attempt to find out if the rabbits would allow us to pick them up, but I am quite certain that no pre-myxomatosis-epidemic rabbit would have permitted such a close human approach as we made. Personally, I noted only head and ear movements, but one of my companions said that the rabbits had changed position from where they were first seen.

One wonders (1) whether the latest generation is deficient in intelligence, as queried by your previous correspondent; (2) whether some, at least, of the new generation have been born with congenital defects, such as deafness (blindness would not account for such behaviour); (3) whether the new generation is lacking in maternal training, the parents being unable to provide it owing to myxomatosis; or (4) whether the rabbits at Liphook and

OCTAGONAL WALNUT TABLE, POSSIBLY AFTER A DESIGN BY *HANS VRIEDEMAN DE VRIES (1527-1604), OF ANTWERP*

See letter: A Table of Flemish Origin?

that at Long Hook were themselves victims of myxomatosis, in the early paralytic stages of the disease.—D. F. WALSH, *Hardar, Gosport, Hampshire.*

QUARANTINE IN THE SCILLIES

SIR,—The building of which I enclose a photograph, on the now uninhabited island of St. Helen's, is a relic of the days when pilotage was a source of livelihood for Scillonians. St. Helen's Pool, on the left of the picture, being the usual anchorage in the islands for sailing ships, the quarantine station was at first at Old Grimsby, the harbour on Tresco which is just visible in the top left of the photograph, and then, after the middle of the 18th century, on St. Helen's, where this pest-house was built. Although soundly constructed, it is said never to have been used.

It would be interesting to know of other such buildings which still exist, and also whether plague sufferers were simply abandoned to such places to recover or not. The plan of a large room and two separate lean-to rooms, each with its own entrance, certainly suggests segregation of the inmates, but whether one room was for an attendant is uncertain.—MARGARET JONES (MRS.), *Snowberry Cottage, Preston Wynne, Herefordshire.*

LONGLEAT AND SHERBORNE

SIR,—In connection with my article *New Light on Longleat* (September 20), I thought it might be worth drawing attention to the interesting house at Sherborne, in Gloucestershire. This preserves a bay window that is strikingly similar to the bay windows at Longleat, though decorated with pillars instead of pilasters. There were originally two such bays, in the space between them the three orders were continued, but with the pillars far more widely spaced and enclosing big eight-light windows. The whole formed the façade of the long arm of an L-shaped wing which was added to in the mid 17th century to make a large three-sided courtyard; this addition followed the original design in its main lines, but omitted the bay windows and used orders of different and more sophisticated detail. The whole house was rebuilt around 1830, but the original façade was re-erected, though in a considerably mangled form. An early-19th-century water-colour in Lord Sherborne's possession shows the façade as it was before alteration and makes it clear that the bay window has not been changed.

There must be some connection between Longleat and the earlier wing at Sherborne. The great question is, which came first? Unfortunately, as no documentary evidence survives for the work of this period at Sherborne, this is a question which it is impossible to answer. But there are a few facts which may be relevant. The property was bought by Thomas Dutton in May, 1551; this Thomas Dutton was a friend of Sir William Sharington, of Lacock Abbey, Wiltshire, who was one of his financial guarantors in the purchase. Sharington's work of the 1550s at Lacock is one of the great landmarks of early Classic architecture in England. Dutton also had relations with Sir John Thynne of Longleat, for in 1541 he was appointed by the Crown bailiff and collector of the manor of Buckland, in Gloucestershire, which manor was later granted to Thynne, though Dutton remained the bailiff. At Longleat a letter survives from Dutton to Thynne dated 1552, from which it appears that they were quarrelling over the administration of the manor. Finally, Dutton entertained Queen Elizabeth at Sherborne in 1574, and died in 1581.

The detail at Sherborne is far less accomplished than that at Longleat, but that does not necessarily mean that it is of earlier date. When Dutton bought the property some sort of house, probably mediæval, already existed. He may have added a wing for the accommodation of Queen Elizabeth in 1574, by which time the bay windows at Longleat were reaching the completion of their first two storeys. On the other hand, the intriguing possibility does remain that the work at Sherborne may be the prototype of Longleat, and even erected as early as the 1550s, under the inspiration of Sir William Sharington.—MARK GIROUARD, *The Courtauld Institute, Portman-square, W.1.*

THEODORO PALEOLOGUS AND HIS FAMILY

SIR,—Your readers may like to know that there is a chapter on Theodoro Paleologus, referred to in Geoffrey Grigson's article *The Tamar and the Tide* (October 11), in *The Strife of the Roses in the West*, by W. H. Hamilton Rogers (printed by G. J. G. Commin, Exeter, 1890).

According to Rogers, Paleologus married in 1600, as his second wife, at Cottingham in Yorkshire, Mary, daughter of William Balls, of Hadleigh, in Suffolk. He had fought under the Prince of Orange, and sought employment under Charles I. His eldest son, Theodoro, served Parliament under the Earl of Essex. He was buried in Westminster Abbey in 1644. Another son, Ferdinando, served the King and later emigrated to Barbados, where his maternal grandfather had an estate. He died about 1680. His son, Theodore, died at sea in 1693. Theodoro's other son, John, is supposed to have fallen at Naseby on the Royalist side in 1645. Mary, the elder daughter, died unmarried in 1674. Dorothy married William Arundell, of St. Mellion, and died in 1681.

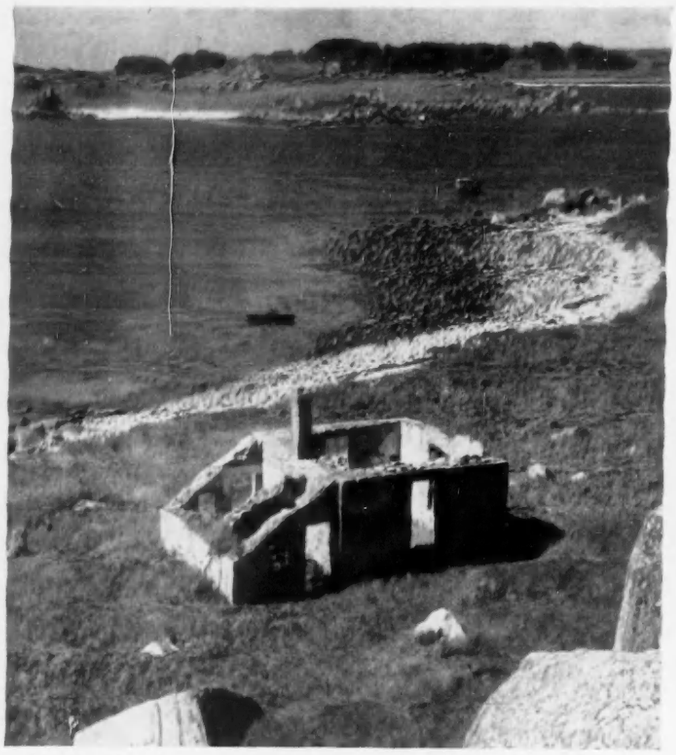
Hamilton Rogers says that the first wife of Theodoro Paleologus was Eudoxia Comnena, and they had a daughter Theodora, born at Chios in 1594, who married Demetrius Rhodocanakis in Naples, in 1614.

Lysons appears to think that the hostility of Popes Paul V and Gregory XV towards the Greeks may have been the cause of the emigration to England.—SABINA C. LAMB, 2, *Rosemount, Sidmouth, East Devon.*

GREEK PRINCE FROM CORNWALL

SIR,—The story of Theodoro Paleologus's son, Ferdinando, is well recounted by Mr. Patrick Leigh-Fermor in *The Traveller's Tree*. Before he died in 1678 he had twice, in 1655 and 1656, been a churchwarden of the Barbados church of St. John's. He was known, so we hear in 1843, as the Greek Prince from Cornwall. In his inscription the words which record his imperial descent are the same as on the brass plate at Landulph.

The Greeks themselves, at the time of their War of Independence, knew that some of the Paleologi had lived in Barbados. They offered, so we find in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, to bring over any surviving male of the family and proclaim him king. The present headstone in the Barbados churchyard is modern. It repeats the earlier inscription, but is a little incongruously flanked by a pair of Greek Doric columns of a type that would have seemed strange to the Byzantine Paleologi of Constantinople or Mistra.—BRYAN LITTLE, *Clifton, Bristol.*



THE FORMER PEST-HOUSE ON ST. HELEN'S, IN THE SCILLY ISLANDS

See letter: Quarantine in the Scillies

EARLY-19th-CENTURY PAINTING OF SHERBORNE HOUSE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, BEFORE IT WAS ALTERED, AND (*right*) DETAIL OF A BAY WINDOW THAT HAS AFFINITIES WITH THOSE AT LONGLEAT, WILTSHIRE

See letter: Longleat and Sherborne

A NEGLECTED DELICACY

SIR,—It was with the greatest pleasure that I read the article in COUNTRY LIFE of September 27 about samphire. When I was a child, living in King's Lynn, in Norfolk, the streets at certain seasons echoed to the melodious cries of "Sampher, Green Samphir, Green Samphire," and its frequent appearance on the table, in either of the ways mentioned by Mr. Clift, always met with great appreciation.

I remember once seeing an old-fashioned picture of sailors clambering about the rocks gathering this plant, to illustrate the story that shipwrecked mariners upon a rocky coast had maintained themselves in life until their rescue by gathering and eating samphire. On their return to their home they hung up a plant in their local church as a votive offering to Saint Peter, patron saint of all seamen—hence the plant's name, samphire, a corruption of St. Pierre.—M. V. PULLEN, *Selsdon Park, Sanderstead, Surrey.*

THE COURTEOUS BLACKBIRD

SIR,—I was sitting in my porch towards the end of July when I saw a cock and a hen blackbird facing each other in a rose bed a few yards away. The cock picked up an Ophelia rose-petal and put it in her beak. She spat it out at once, but he promptly picked it up and handed it to her again. She again spat it out, and this performance was continued a great many times.

A sparrow had been watching the performance with great interest and suddenly darted in under the cock's nose, picked up the petal and flew round the corner of the house, pursued by the cock, who quickly returned in triumph with the petal, which by then was rather the worse for wear. The hen had meanwhile stayed still,

Enjoy another packet of CAPSTAN

SMOOTHER...
FINER FLAVOUR

SIR C. BUNBURY'S SORCERER
from the original watercolour by H. Alken in the possession of Ladbroke & Co. Ltd.

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Acquaintance I would have, but when't depends
Not on the number, but the choice of friends.

ABRAHAM COWLEY 1618-1667

(The 'Ladbroke Stakes' will be run at Newmarket on October 31st, 1956)

L.A.2

and the petal was handed to her again with the same result, but after a few more times they had had enough of this game and flew off together.—CLARE E. PELLY (Mrs.), 7, *Hartland-road, Epping, Essex.*

PUZZLE OF A PICTURE

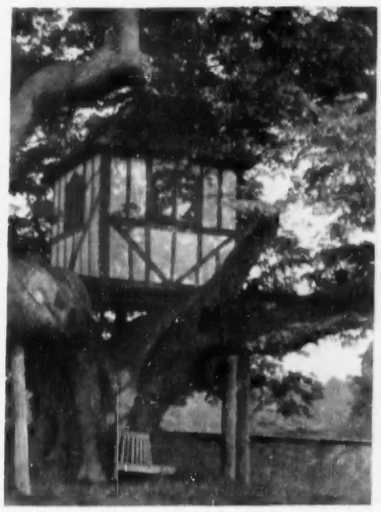
SIR,—As the eldest son of the artist John Macpherson, who died in 1902 in his seventieth year, I was interested to see Mr. Garton's recent letter about the harness of canal horses in one of my father's pictures. He never painted anything unless he saw it. I think the part of the harness in question is an arrangement to prevent the tow rope from falling at the horse's feet as it stops, when the tow rope is inclined to coil up. My father was fond of going up the canal at Kensal Green and painted pictures of it.—J. A. MACPHERSON, *Merrow House, Merrow, Guildford, Surrey.*

SIR,—Mr. F. P. A. Garton asks about wooden boards on the collars of horses. I have here an engraving of T. M. Richardson's painting of St. Nicholas's Cathedral, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. In the foreground at the bottom of the Groat Market are several two-wheeled carts loaded with sacks, presumably farm-carts bringing grain into the city for sale. Two horses are pulling each cart, harnessed one behind the other, and many of these horses have the wooden board behind the collar, exactly as described by your correspondent. The date of the picture will be early in the 19th century.—D. C. PAPE (Miss), *Grindon Corner, Berwick-on-Tweed.*

EXMOOR WATERS

SIR,—Exmoor has many "waters": Sherdon Water, Litton Water, Farley Water, Chalk Water, Weir Water and so on. Some of these are picturesque and full of small trout. I enclose a photograph of Chalk Water, which is typical. Chalk Water flows into Weir Water and the two together form Oare Water, which, when joined by Badgeworthy Water (the Devon and Somerset boundary), in turn becomes East Lyn River—and so to Lynmouth.

Despite its many waters Exmoor is poor in ponds, lakes and reservoirs. My other photograph shows little-visited Pinkworthy (Pinkery) Pond, near the heart of the moor at an elevation of 1,400 feet. This pond of about seven acres is now the source of the River Barle; it was, in fact, formed by damming the head of a combe where two or three trickles met. The work was presumably done about 1800 to 1820, but I have never been able to discover the date. Pinkworthy Pond used to be full of trout, but it was not re-stocked after an occasion on which it was drained. Nobody seems to know the original purpose of the pond. To feed a canal, never completed? For irrigation? It was even for pleasure boating, according to one suggestion.—WESTCOUNTRYMAN, *Somerset.*



LARGE-LEAVED LIME AT PITCHFORD PARK, SHROPSHIRE, AND THE TREE-HOUSE WHICH IS BUILT IN IT

See letter: A Rare Lime Tree

A RARE LIME TREE

SIR,—The Peter-Pan-like tree-house at Pitchford Hall, in Shropshire, has not infrequently been described, but little attention seems to have been given to the remarkable lime tree in which it stands. Mr. Avray Tipping thought that the building had its origins a good deal earlier than 1714, when it was shown in a drawing and when the tree must already have been immense.

I was fortunate enough to visit Pitchford on one of the few warm days of July, when the drone of the bees and the peculiarly individual scent of the flowers on the magnificent trees of European lime that form the long double avenue to the house were a memorable experience. But these fine trees and others of the same kind on the lawn are dwarfed by the tree standing apart and on a hillock away from the hall in which the arbour is built. I have never seen a lime of such stature. It had flowered quite freely, but the petals had mostly fallen. This at once gave a clue to its species—*Tilia platyphylla*, the large-leaved lime—which blooms before the common or European kind. The downiness of the twigs confirmed this, as did other features, though, as is not infrequent, the epithet "large leaved" was misleading.

I could not measure the girth of this giant, but it far exceeds that of any trees of this comparatively uncommon lime that I have recorded. I could find no others of this kind in the neighbourhood.

There is, I believe, but one record of the pollen grains of this species having been identified in post-glacial peat, and its status as a native tree is disputed. Some authorities, however, claim that it is indigenous to certain limestone hills in the west and north of England. It may be significant that Pitchford lies just below the limestone—famed among geologists—of Wenlock Edge.—MILES HADFIELD, 39, *Hamstead-hill, Birmingham, 20.*

NEW USES FOR CHURCHES

SIR,—I entirely agree with Mr. Ivor Bulmer-Thomas (October 4) that every possible effort should be made to preserve churches for their original use—just as, so far as possible, every building should be so preserved. At the same time, one remembers St. Peter Hungate, Norwich, which has been turned into an excellent museum, and another church (I cannot remember where) that has become an art gallery. Personally, I find nothing whatever objectionable or even regrettable in these alternative uses, which are both dignified and, indeed, uplifting to those of receptive mind.

Our ancestors, it appears, were not as squeamish as we are. A cinema at Chester began its life about 1280 as the Chapel of St. Nicholas, to replace the parish church of St. Oswald. It became in turn a wool hall, a common hall, the Theatre Royal (1773), and in 1867 Dickens gave readings from his books in the then "newly established Music Hall."—W. BRANCH JOHNSON, *Welwyn, Hertfordshire.*

HOOPOES IN THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND

SIR,—We had a hoopoe on our front lawn on September 7 and on several following days. It stayed for quite half an hour each time, so we had ample time to observe it, but only once did it ruffle out its comb. It constantly probed the ground with its long beak and did not appear to be unduly nervous. This is by no means a secluded spot, for we are on the main Ventnor road though our front garden is about six feet above ground level.—I. G. CLARKSON (Mrs.), *Gables, Clarence-road, Wroxall, Isle of Wight.*

SIR,—We had a hoopoe feeding on our lawn on September 22, 23 and 24. It was remarkably unafraid of humans and fed within three or four yards of the house, but flew up into the trees when the dogs were around.—AILEEN MORSE (Mrs.), *Hilcot, Buxton-road, Weymouth, Dorset.*

CHALK WATER, A TYPICAL EXMOOR STREAM. *(Right)* PINKWORTHY POND, SOURCE OF THE RIVER BARLE

See letter: Exmoor Waters

Percival Tetley discovers flaw in oil-fired central heating

Every winter up till last, Mr. and Mrs. J. Tetley and son William could count on finding Percival (above) in one of two places. Under the kitchen stove or before the lounge fire. Percival liked to keep warm and they were the only hot spots going.

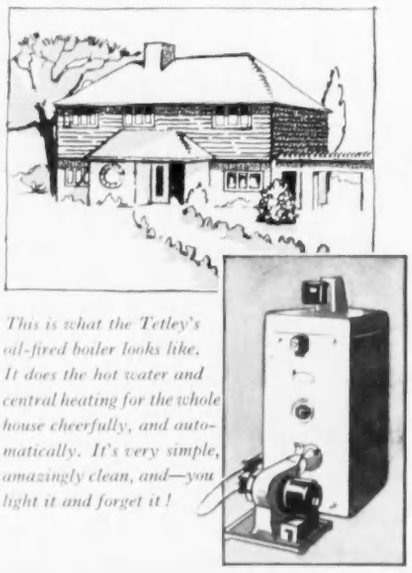
Then last November the Tetley's installed oil-fired central heating.

Wonderful. Percival rejoiced in this new liberty, settled at will, nice and warm and comfortable. Became a domestic bedouin.

Until the day he lay all but concealed behind the chesterfield and Mrs. Tetley ran the fully-laden tea trolley across his tail. Percival now sleeps tail-tucked-under but still wherever he pleases.

Mr. and Mrs. and Master Tetley, however, took to the new system right from the start. In every way, they enjoy the very many benevolences of oil-fired heating . . . through and through warmth at finger-switch control . . . the spotlessness of no-grate, no-scuttle, no-ash operation . . . the certainty and stability of supply and price. They're real 'stay at homes' and they like it.

If you're building, remodelling or just plain fed up with your heating system write for information on oil to: ESSO PETROLEUM COMPANY, LTD., DOMESTIC FUEL OIL DIVISION, 36 QUEEN ANNE'S GATE, LONDON, S.W.1.



This is what the Tetley's oil-fired boiler looks like. It does the hot water and central heating for the whole house cheerfully, and automatically. It's very simple, amazingly clean, and—you light it and forget it!

Winters wear you down? —time you found out about ESSO HOME HEATING OILS

NEW BOOKS

THE WALLACE COLLECTION

THE catalogue of the furniture in the Wallace Collection, with historical notes and illustrations by F. J. B. Watson (10s.), is not only a *catalogue raisonné*: the introduction contains an account of how the collection was formed, as well as a review of French decorative art of the 18th century. There is also a great deal of information about the most eminent French *maître-ébénistes*. In the catalogue a full description is given of each article and its history, where known. The signature of the maker is also reproduced and anonymous pieces are given attributions. The text of the catalogue, therefore, contains a mass of detailed and interesting information.

It was the fourth Marquis of Hertford (1800-1870) who was mainly responsible for the fine assembly of French furniture, and it was to his son, Sir Richard Wallace (1818-1890), that the collection owes its sections on mediæval and Renaissance art, particularly the European arms and armour, which is the most outstanding collection of its kind in England.

Copying French Furniture

One of the many things we learn from this catalogue is that Lord Hertford had copies made of outstanding examples of French furniture, the originals of which he was unable to buy. These 19th-century copies cost a great deal of money, equal to that paid for a period example. It is strange that Lord Hertford should have wanted to place a modern piece side by side with the masterpieces of craftsmanship of 18th-century French cabinet-making. Mr. Watson says it was because of his love for French furniture. But surely the more he appreciated the real thing the less he would have liked the imitation? It would have been of value to the furniture student if the difference between the original and the later copy had been described. What, for example, is the difference in the construction and the wood of the drawers and the carcass, and also the locks, between the "Bureau du Roi Louis XV" made for Lord Hertford by Pierre Dasson, and the original in the Louvre? Unfortunately it is not possible, without a lot of fuss and bother, for a member of the public to examine the drawers and interior construction of the carcass of a piece of museum furniture.

In the supplementary notes an account is given of the various subdivisions of labour connected with furniture-making, and also a description of the organisation of the guilds to which craftsmen belonged. There were two main branches in furniture-making: the joiners and the cabinet-makers, who were woodworkers, belonged to one guild, and the casters and chasers and the gilders of mounts, owing to their being metal workers, belonged to another guild. The notes also contain a full account of the making of the ormolu mounts, describing the two different ways of casting and how they were chased and afterwards gilded by the mercurial process, and then burnished or given a matt surface.

Secrets of Polishing

One omission is that there is no description of the way French furniture was polished. Perhaps in a future edition of the catalogue this will be included, for it would be interesting to have an authoritative statement on how the French cabinet-maker obtained a transparent polish with a high reflecting surface. Presumably it was done in the same way as for English furniture, that is by the application of many coats of spirit varnish, the surface of which was afterwards polished.

A statement made by the author concerning *patine* is unworthy of its context. He writes: "*patine* (generally only an accumulation of dirt) which is so highly valued amongst those more interested in the commerce in old furniture than in appreciating its true qualities." The English collector appreciates and highly values the effects of age—otherwise patina—but this does not mean that he is blind to the furniture's "true qualities." He prefers the golden brown of old walnut to the dark green tinge of the new; the nut brown of mahogany to the hence red of the new polished wood, and he is quite right in feeling that the mellowing of the colour by long exposure to the air—apart from the effect of years of domestic polishing—undoubtedly gives to old furniture an aesthetic quality. It is curious that Mr. Watson should consider that such an outlook is that of a person chiefly interested in the buying and selling of furniture. The surface of old furniture will accumulate dirt and grime through the years, and to wash this off with soap and water is essential, but this method of cleaning does not destroy in any way the patina. To scour the surface, however, with an abrasive or to scrape it does untold damage, for not only will it bring the wood back to its original colour, but the mellowness of age, which has taken so many generations to acquire, will have gone for good.

A Modern Deceit

French furniture, unlike English, must be spick and span, for to the collector of such furniture the patina of age has no meaning. An old piece of French furniture with its original patina is, therefore, stripped and polished in order to make the wood regain its original colour, and the surface new and fresh-looking. It is because collectors consider such a surface desirable that it is difficult to tell when a plain piece has had its market value increased by an inlay of flowers, a deceit often carried out to-day. Patina is a safeguard against such malpractices.

At the end of the catalogue are a glossary of furniture terms; a list of woods used in marquetry; a glossary of decorative stones, and a valuable list of works of reference which is so thorough that it includes published books and articles in magazines and sale and exhibition catalogues. The illustrations, considering the low price of the book, are ample and well produced. More detailed photographs showing the quality of the mounts, the buhl or the marquetry inlay would have been useful. A catalogue of this kind, crammed with so much knowledge of the subject, is of the greatest value to students, collectors and dealers, and Mr. Watson is to be congratulated on his work.

R.W.S.

THE AUDITORIUM OF LA SCALA, MILAN: AN ILLUSTRATION IN *GREAT OPERA HOUSES*, REVIEWED IN COLUMN 4 OF THIS PAGE

EUROPEAN OPERA HOUSES

SPIKE HUGHES'S *Great Opera Houses* (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 32s. 6d.) is an informative tour of the most famous opera houses in Europe. Mr. Hughes tells the story of the buildings themselves and of the musicians who have played and sung in them, emphasising the continuity of each opera house and analysing its special qualities. Thus he calls La Scala in Milan the most majestic, the San Carlo in Naples the most elegant of them all; Covent Garden, like the market it stands in, grows nothing but sells everything; the Paris Opera is "the supreme period piece."

By the plan of his work Mr. Hughes has to travel the same chronological road in each of his chapters. Royal opera in the 17th century; expansion and rivalry in the 18th century; then the great 19th-century composers, culminating in Verdi, and so to the operatic scene to-day; this is the usual pattern, at least in Italy. But each opera house has its own private history crowded with incident, sometimes of a surprising nature. Thus, in the 18th century the finances of La Scala were helped by the profits of gaming tables—a practice which might appeal to impecunious opera managers to-day. Altogether Mr. Hughes has written an interesting book for the musical historian, for the tourist who wishes to sample opera from Covent Garden to Catania, and for the general reader.

FIFTY YEARS' CRICKET MEMORIES

A CHEERFUL book of cricketing reminiscence is A. A. Thomson's *Pavilioned in Splendour* (Museum Press, 15s.). The author's memories cover half a century of cricket, from the golden age of Ranjitsinhji and Fry to the modern scene, which he compares much more favourably with the past than do many other cricket writers. He has chapters on great county captains, on cricketers who have dazzled the spectators by their brilliance, on cricketers with the same name, including an imaginary XI made up of Smiths. His sympathies lie more with the all-rounder than the specialist, and his epilogue is a memorial to George Hirst, of Yorkshire, one of the greatest all-rounders in the history of the game. There are a number of illustrations of prominent cricketers of the last half century.

THE 1956 TEST MATCHES

TWO books on the 1956 Test Match series against Australia are *Defending the Ashes, 1956*, by Bruce Harris (Hutchinson, 12s. 6d.) and *Behind the Australian Tests—1956*, by Norman Cutler (Putnam, 15s.). Mr. Harris's account is straightforward, with plenty of statistics and a detailed appendix analysing every game played on the tour by the Australians. His book is extremely easy to find one's way about in, and he gives a helpful summary before describing each day's play. The last chapter deals with the members of the English team in turn, giving their batting and bowling averages and comments on their play.

Mr. Cutler's account is in many ways complementary to Mr. Harris's, as he gives far fewer lists of figures, but deals more fully with the selection of the two teams and devotes his final chapter to a summing-up. He calls the 1956 Tests "a disappointing series"—the weather was bad, the Australian team was chosen for a fast wicket and the English batsmen, with a few exceptions, were not up to the usual Test standard. On the other hand, Laker's bowling and the returns of Compton and Washbrook on the English side, and the all-round excellence of Miller on the Australian, made it in many ways a memorable tour.

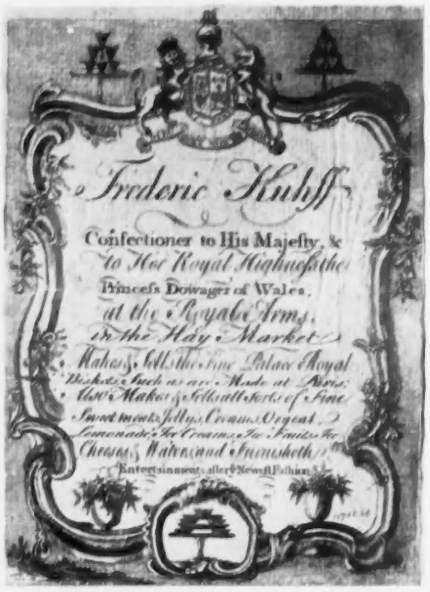
GEORGIAN SILVER CREAM-BOATS AND PAILS

By G. BERNARD HUGHES

THE gargantuan meals of earlier centuries have little appeal to modern tastes. The Georgian banquet or dessert, with its dainty refreshments served to a moving, chattering throng, is far more in keeping with 20th-century ideas of social pleasure. Similarly, the various charming accessories to this repast are particularly well suited to present-day living and are becoming notably popular among collectors.

The "dressing out of a dessert" for a banquet was a polite accomplishment of Georgian ladies, but when guests were numerous or of importance a professional confectioner would be engaged. This was a vanity made fashionable by George I when he introduced Hanoverian confectioners to St. James's Palace in 1715. Colourful sweetmeats, wet and dry, with fresh fruit were displayed in vessels of glowing silver, scintillating glass and gorgeously coloured porcelains.

By the mid-century dessert tables were brilliantly set out. A trade-card issued by D. Negri, confectioner at the Pine Apple in Berkeley-square, listed ice-cream whips, custards, trifles, jellies, blancmanges and similar spoon-requiring confections served individually in small glass containers, and there were also candied fruits, boiled sweets, orange chips, comfits and flowered candies offered in small silver baskets or shallow glass bowls. Fruit was handed in large silver baskets or porcelain bowls accompanied by cream in small silver cream-boats.



1.—CONFECTIONER'S TRADE-CARD OF THE 1760s

2.—PLAIN CREAM BOAT WITH SCALLOPED RIM AND THREE PLAIN FEET. By John Jacobs, London, 1737. (*Middle*) 3.—SILVER-GILT CREAM-BOAT, CAST WITH APPLIED LEAF ORNAMENT, FREE-STANDING SCROLL HANDLE AND DOLPHIN FEET. About 1735. (*Right*) 4.—EXAMPLE RAISED FROM THE PLATE, WITH HIGH SCROLL HANDLE. By Edward Feline, London, 1740

The centre of the table was enriched with specially designed porcelain figures and imitations of fruit in full natural colours. At Christie's in 1771 a collection of "4 pears, 3 apples, 2 pomegranats, 4 lemons, 6 citrons, 8 melons, 2 figs, 2 artichokes, 4 sunflowers and a rose," all in Chelsea porcelain, was sold for twenty-five shillings.

Mrs. Hannah Glasse in *The Compleat Confectioner* (1752) described several handsome arrangements for dressing out a dessert with fruit such as peaches, nectarines, apricots, grapes, plums, pears and golden pippin apples at the four corners of the table, and cream served from silver cream-boats.

The shapely outline of the silver cream-boat contributed to the graceful elegance of the dessert. The earliest of these vessels date from about 1720, the body formed as a nautilus shell, with a dolphin handle, on a stem formed as a dragon or grotesque animal figure and an oval or octagonal foot. Before 1725 such a body stood on four feet terminating in dolphin heads. This shape of cream-boat was revived early in George III's reign.

The typical cream-boat, however, followed the same general lines as the single spouted sauce-boat introduced at the same period. Its low body emphasised the wide forward-sweeping lip projecting far beyond the body and designed to facilitate the pouring of thick, rich cream. The cream-boat body, usually a compressed oval with an outward expanding rim, was hand-raised from the plate and finished with a sheared rim which might be scalloped or in cyma outline.

At first a double-scroll handle rose above the rim, being attached to it by a forked unit. This handle extended far to the rear, returning to join the body in such a way that the lower scroll extended below the base. A later example might have the outer curve of such a handle capped with scroll or leaf ornament. Another alternative feature was a free-standing scroll handle, terminating in a chased bust, ram's head, serpent, amorine or other motif modelled in the round.

In some early examples the cream-boat was supported by four legs. Three legs were usual, however, cast and chased, one immediately below the spout, the other two towards the back, flanking the handle. Each joined the body with an expansive ornamental flange, sometimes a lion mask ending in a paw, claw and ball, shell or flower. Scroll, hoof and pad feet were frequent. The rim might be slightly everted and a cast mask or other motif applied beneath the lip, intended to strengthen the out-curving spout of thin metal against the hazards of distortion by careless cleaning, such as would ruin the smooth flow of the cream.

Hand-raised cream-boats might be ornamented with engraved scrollwork and flowers, and a crest beneath the spout. Light chasing is also found. By the 1740s low-embossing had become established, typical motifs being scroll-work, flowers and foliage against a matted ground. In some instances a hand-raised cream-boat might be ornamented with applied motifs such as flowers, foliage, shellwork and other Rococo curiosities. The interior thus remained smooth and easy to clean and was a style always preferred. A collector should carefully inspect hand-raised cream-boats, for it has proved simple and highly profitable to convert hall-marked punch ladles into heavier, more costly cream-boats.

5.—CREAM-BOAT WITH NARROW CAST BODY DECORATED WITH COWS AND A GOAT IN A PASTURE: THE HANDLE CAST IN THE FORM OF A SPANIEL. By J. E. (probably John Eckford), London, 1740

Cream-boats cast in silver were made from the late 1720s, elaborately ornamented in relief, the chased and burnished motifs rising sharp and bold. The body was made in halves, the handle and the feet separately, and all were finished by chasing and burnishing. Fashionable motifs included cows grazing or lying in a pasture, sometimes accompanied by a goat. In these the rim was shaped in deep curves and the back of the body might curve forward upon itself. The handle was cast, often in the form of a pair of writhing serpents, or a dolphin with its tail attached to the back of the vessel, rising upward from the rim, curving forward over the body and terminating in a mask.

Such a cream-boat might stand upon an irregular round or oval moulded foot with a spool-shaped stem bearing the additional ornament of applied cast motifs. Another design had a low tripod foot, each member springing from the centre of the base. Dolphins' heads with their mouths resting upon escallop shells were frequent. Yet another type consisted of three feet formed from the convolutions of a snake.

Cream-boats were usually sold in pairs, but hall-marks have proved the existence of sets of a dozen. The raising of cream-boat bodies from the plate was a specialist branch of the early Georgian silversmith's craft. Other small silver

"There's no use talking TASTE IT!"

Whenever it is the time and place for a truly satisfying whisky, the discriminating man always tries to obtain Mackinlay's. He knows it is the finest—and one of Scotland's oldest proprietary brands.

MACKINLAY'S SCOTCH WHISKY

ESTD. 1820

AS BLENDED BY THE MACKINLAY FAMILY FOR FOUR GENERATIONS

vessels such as punch-ladles, salt-cellars and sauce-boats were wrought in the same workshops. Sir Ambrose Heal possesses a trade-card issued by David Hennell, who worked at the "Flower de Lis and Star, Gutter Lane," from 1736 to 1758, announcing that he "Makes and Sells all Sorts of Salts, Punch Ladles, Cream Boats, Sauce Boats."

Until about 1730 skillets of silver required interminable hammering and annealing to convert them into workable plate. A hand-operated machine was then invented, described at the time as "a Flatting-Mill which reduces Silver to the required thinness at very small expense." This silver plate, cut more or less circular and of a diameter measuring approximately the height plus the diameter of the finished cream-boat, had then to be formed into shape. This work, known as raising, was a prolonged and repetitive process of sinking, fluting and annealing which only a highly skilled silversmith could accomplish without either splitting or fire-staining. To increase strength the cream-boat was slightly thickened at the rim by placing it upon a circular sand-filled leather cushion and hammering directly all around the edge. The roughened surface of the metal was then smoothed, or planished, by the use of various hammers with polished faces, while the vessel was inverted over a highly burnished stake. This produced a surface true and bright with an all-over texture of brilliant facets.

6.—CREAM-BOAT WITH CAST BODY, CHASED AND BURNISHED. By Thomas England, London, 1750

7.—CREAM-BOATS OF THE 1750s AND 1760s, WITH CHASED ORNAMENT, AND MILK JUGS OF THE SAME PERIOD

As porcelain dessert services, decorated in gold and a wide range of colours, came into use in the wealthiest households, cream-boats in silver were superseded by porcelain tureens and ladles. In various catalogues of Christie's sales dating from about 1780 these were described as "oval cream basons, covers, plates and spoons." A Chelsea-Derby dessert service, sold in 1783 for £26, consisted of 36 plates, 17 compotiers and a pair of cream bowls, covers, stands and spoons, and at the sale of Derby porcelain a year later "a cream pail and ladle" were catalogued.

The service of clotted cream in miniature pails of silver had become a fashionable conceit in the late 1740s. Mrs. Delany, in June, 1752, expressed her delight at having been presented with "a cream pail and a spoon." A few months later she wrote to the Duchess of Portland: "My cream-pail is now before me in my china case and makes a very considerable figure."

Clotted cream had great advantages in the days before refrigeration and should not be confused with quickly-souring fresh cream: as early as 1542 Borde in his *Dyetary* distinguished between "rawe crayme" and "clowted crayme," the latter made by scalding or heating milk until its cream became thick or clotted. The Georgian cream-pail in which it was served was bucket-shaped with a swing bail handle of twisted or corded wire and might be chased with sprays of flowers and foliage or encircled with chased lines representing hoops.

Cream-pails from the early 1770s were given a new splendour by piercing the silver and lining it with a cream container in dark Bristol blue glass. At first the piercing was cut by a hand-saw in such encircling open-work designs as landscapes with figures, farm-houses and grazing cows, the entire pattern being worked in low relief *repoussé*. In some instances the tiny pail, measuring between 2½ and 3 inches in height, consisted of three vertical panels each displaying a motif of pastoral life. There were also cream pails pierced and chased with Chinoiserie designs. Others were pierced flat in scroll, flower and leaf patterns: the surface might be lightly engraved. A cartouche was incorporated upon which a crest could be engraved. The top rim was strengthened with knurled or other moulding, the base with thick plain moulding. By the 1780s the vessel might be cylindrical with a free-standing scroll handle and blue glass liner.

Late cream-pails were press-pierced, usually with lattice-work, bands of vertical pales, crosses, circles, urns and husks, with beaded borders. Much of this mechanical piercing was carried out by the Birmingham factory silversmiths who sold their work in the rough to master silversmiths in London and elsewhere. The aim of the factory silversmith was to use the fly-press in such a way that the sheet of metal was reduced to a delicate tracery. The finished pails, of course, were struck with the mark of the silversmith submitting them for assay. In some instances a ground of open-work trellis was enriched by the application of embossed and chased ornament pressed separately and soldered into position. From about 1785 the main ornamental features such as Classical swags were incorporated in the open-work silhouette, mechanically cut. Only surface detail such as bright-cut engraving required hand-finishing. Rims were usually encircled with beading impressed by a special tool. Other cream-pails fitted with blue glass liners were built from silver wire, with corded rims and applied decoration such as swags and foliage.

8.—CREAM-PAIL WITH BRISTOL BLUE GLASS LINER. By Charles Aldridge and Henry Green, London, 1779

Small silver ladles were used for lifting the clotted cream from the pail. Seldom are these now discovered *en suite*, such tiny ladles having been mistaken for mustard ladles. Usually the bowls of cream-pail ladles were smoothly plain, for the essential scrupulous cleaning, and frequently in the shape of well rounded escallop shells. Handles and finials matched those of fashionable dessert services of forks and spoons. Stem decoration was rare until the 1760s. An example made in 1765 by William Plummer, and still with its chased pail, has a floral finial.

Cream-baskets matching accompanying sugar-baskets and containing blue glass liners had become fashionable by the 1770s. In an otherwise matching pair there would be a difference in size, the larger vessel being intended for cream. A set of eight matching pairs by Hester Bateman have been noted, each struck with the hall-mark 1778. Early cream-baskets were vase-shaped, with strengthened rims and typically pierced with bands of pales, urns and husks. Others were in wirework with applied foliage and corded rims. By the 1780s the basket, still with a hinged bail handle, was made with a boat-shaped body, solid or pierced, on a slender stem rising from an oval foot with a reeded border.

The Hon. John Byng, in *The Torrington Diaries* (1785), recorded that "tea with cream is a great curiosity" and similarly on several occasions during the late 1780s he expressed surprise at this novelty. Yet cream ewers were included with the costly tea equipage in Chelsea porcelain sold at Christie's during the 1770s. Silver cream-jugs for the tea-table were coming into use by this time, with wide-throated, curved lips resembling those on cream-boats. By the 19th century these cream-jugs had developed a form mid-way between the cream-boat and the beaked spout milk-jug. The low body was longer than wide and was adapted from the shape of a Roman urn.

Illustrations: 1, *Victoria and Albert Museum;* 2-8, *collection of Mrs. William B. Munro.*

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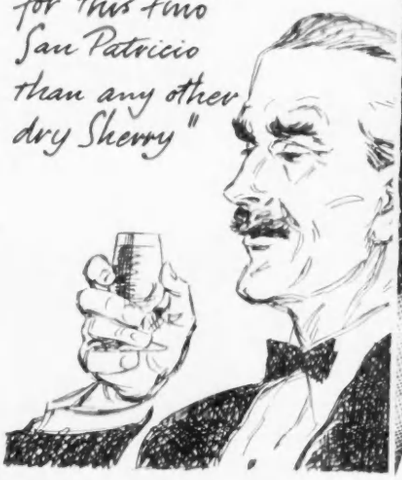

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A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

OCCUPATIONAL RISK

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

ONE type of reader's query is apt to make me quake. It starts like this: "Last night a hand caused quite a commotion. We have agreed to abide by your decision. Where did we go wrong?" Then comes a painstaking diagram and details of the bidding; finally, a sly suggestion or two identifies the writer's position at the table and induces you to moderate your comments. I am not referring to queries sent in by readers of this journal.

"Where did we go wrong?" You study a weird opening bid by the dealer, a preposterous overcall on his left, inexplicable moves by his partner and right-hand opponent; the bidding gets progressively worse and winds up in a welter of doubles and redoubles. Although a conscientious reply, covering each call in turn, may run to the length of this article, it can be described more or less accurately as a labour of love.

There is a brighter side, however. When I am hard up for a topic, a search through my COUNTRY LIFE Readers' Correspondence file invariably proves rewarding. Full of meat, for instance, is a recent query sent in by Mr. G. R. F. Hamilton; almost every call made brings out an instructive point. Mistakes were committed, but you and I might easily err in a similar everyday situation.

North: ♠ A 8 5 ♡ Q 10 6 ◇ J 9 7 4 ♣ K 10 3

West: ♠ 2 ♡ A 9 8 ◇ K 8 5 3 ♣ A Q 8 5 2

East: ♠ K Q 7 3 ♡ J 5 4 3 2 ◇ 2 ♣ 9 7 6

South: ♠ J 10 9 6 4 ♡ K 7 ◇ A Q 10 6 ♣ J 4

Dealer, South. Both sides vulnerable.

South	*West*	*North*	*East*
1 Spade	Double	Redouble	2 Hearts
No bid	3 Hearts	Double	No bid
3 Spades	No bid	4 Spades	Double
No bid	No bid	No bid	

The result is not stated, but it looks as though East-West should take two high Spades, two Aces, King of Diamonds and a Diamond ruff for a penalty of 800—a sad affair, since Three Hearts goes one down (possibly two down if South happens to start with the Knave of Clubs). "Who was to blame for the disaster?" asks Mr. Hamilton. I think it worth while to review the whole auction.

South—One Spade. Most people would pass. But there are 12 points counting Tens, only seven losers, and no serious rebid problem, while the pre-emptive effect of a weak Spade opening may worry the opponents if they have the edge in high cards.

West—Double. Impeccable. You can't always have four cards in the unbid major.

North—Redouble. "Highly proper," as a friend of mine is wont to say in his weekly column. With 11 points and facing a vulnerable opening, North can cope with any normal developments.

East—Two Hearts. I have long held a theory, which is rapidly gaining converts, that a bid of Three Hearts is more logical in this situation. The argument: West's double asks for information and suggests sound support for the unbid major; the modern idea is all against a passive pass over the redouble on nothing but a Knave-high five-card Heart suit, this being no time for the attitude "If we're in a mess, partner, it's up to you to get us out of it"; Two Hearts is in no sense a free bid based on genuine values, and East merely says to his partner, "It may ease your mind to know that Two Hearts is a playable spot."

But here East has additional assets, a high-card trick and a singleton. From his angle Four Hearts may easily be on, and he is well equipped to deal with an enemy contract of Four Spades. What his side really has to contend with is the psychological effect of North's redouble. Unless West has a maximum, he is all too apt to be unnerved; assuming that the opponents are stronger and that East has next to nothing, his one concern will be to see the end of the hand without incurring a penalty. I think a jump to Three Hearts should merely suggest some limited values over and above the minimum for a bid of Two Hearts. The call must not be taken too seriously; if East were stronger, there would be other ways of bidding his hand.

South—No bid. What else?

West—Three Hearts. Highly dubious. East's Two Hearts means very little. West has a nice shape, but the trump support is thin. The raise asks for trouble after a stern warning from North. Suppose, for the sake of argument, that North elects to bid Three Spades instead of doubling Three Hearts; since East is far better than he need be, he should obviously bid Four Hearts in his sleep, picturing partner with a hand of this type:

♠ 2 ♡ A 10 9 6 ◇ A 8 5 ♣ A J 10 5 2

South must pass again, so North will have the pleasure of doubling a game call without fear of a rescue by partner. I must be fair, however; West's raise to Three Hearts may be all wrong in theory, but the practical effect was stupendous!

North—Double. The natural call, and a good one. Three Spades is speculative with at least nine losers, while a pass is liable to prove a trap. North can expect to win three tricks in defence, and his partner should provide at least two.

East—No bid. Happily, one presumes.

South—Three Spades. Quite appalling. The partner is apt to say on such occasions: "Of course, if you *will* open, vulnerable, on that rubbish . . ." But the One Spade call cannot fairly be blamed for the débâcle, unless we look at it this way: for heaven's sake don't open light if you are prone to panic when the bidding fails to go to your liking.

One very sound reason for standing partner's double, however reluctantly, is the absence of a place of refuge. South cannot rely on North for more than one small Spade: the usual inference to be drawn from his redouble followed by a double of Three Hearts is that he was playing from the start, not for game, but for penalties. The hand below would be ideal for such tactics:

♠ 8 ♡ Q 10 6 2 ◇ K J 9 7 ♣ A K 10 3

This apart, why should South fear that Three Hearts doubled will be made? It is not as though he had a singleton or void in East's suit; on the contrary, his K 7 has become a most valuable asset.

West—No bid. With a sense of relief, I imagine.

North—Four Spades. Rather difficult to assess. In one way North has already bid his hand, but he is bound to be misled by his partner's bidding. Suppose South had opened on a weakish distributional hand like the following:

♠ J 10 9 7 6 4 ♡ 7 ◇ K Q 10 6 ♣ A 4

The recognised procedure is to warn the redoubler by bidding Two Spades over the Two Heart call on his right; this clearly suggests a nice Spade hand but no intention of allowing East to play in Two Hearts doubled. So what is North to think when his partner passes on the second round and then bids Three Spades? Obviously, his main values are distributional (a six-card Spade suit should be a *sine qua non*), but his high-card strength must be rather better than in the above example. North visualises something like this:

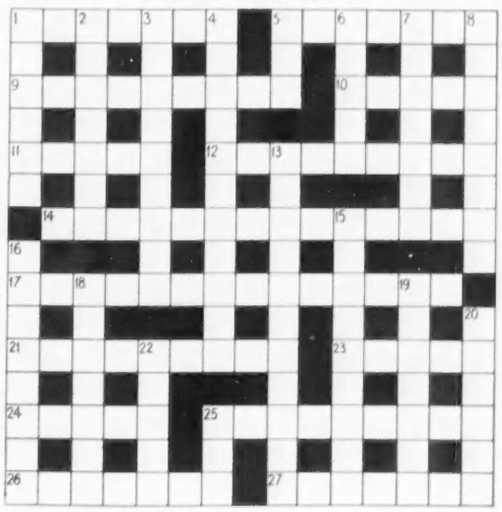
♠ K J 9 7 6 4 ♡ 7 ◇ K Q 10 6 ♣ A 4

In brief, North can scarcely pack up over Three Spades when the last thing South could place him with is A 8 5 in his suit. North discounts his Queen of Hearts, but his minor suit holdings may be just what South needs for an odds-on Four Spades.

I wish Mr. Hamilton had told me which seat he occupied. That is one of the hazards of my profession. I should hate to think that he was South!

CROSSWORD No. 1394

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 1394, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than ***the first post on the morning of Wednesday, October 31, 1956***



Name.....
(MR., MRS., ETC.)
Address.....

ACROSS

1. "The —— sat on the Cardinal's chair" —*R. H. Barham* (7)
5. Not always bound to be a dark skin (7)
9. Is fish on weight in this part of London? (9)
10. The tree and the tool for it (5)
11. Plant that extends over a large part of a continent (5)
12. Thought but without originality? (9)
14. These should have come easily at school to the born actor (9, 5)
17. Kilimanjaro, for instance (7, 7)
21. Vehicle an American city offered for hire (9)
23. Named in old-fashioned style (5)
24. Island that admits killing (5)
25. Real equal (anagr.) (9)
26. The dress took first place, but was it reported accurately? (7)
27. "Hope ——s, and joy "Brightens his crest"—*Milton* (7)

DOWN

1. Snug in a dream (6)
2. A kind of ship *he* is (7)
3. Scottish king; no, French; yet Irish in the long run (9)
4. The little squirt's favourite weapon? (5, 6)
5. "The paragon of animals," Hamlet said (3)
6. Money from soup (5)
7. A canon comes under this heading (7)
8. Such excess may be fatal (8)
13. It has taken the place of the olive-branch (4, 2, 5)
15. A beast of burden (9)
16. The sort of hat that goes out to bring back admirers? (8)
18. Like one of Stephenson's bridges (7)
19. Flower that enshrouds Cupid ?(7)
20. The Parthenos of the Parthenon (6)
22. One of Tennyson's perhaps (5)
25. "One lovely hand she stretched for ——, "And one was round her lover" —*Campbell* (3)

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.

SOLUTION TO No. 1393 *The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of October 18, will be announced next week.*

ACROSS.—1, Professionals; 10, Release; 11, Crimson; 12, Hecatomb; 13, Porter; 15, Repent at leisure; 17, Eating humble pie; 21, Proust; 22, Coinages; 25, Ocarina; 26, Anemone; 29, Deprecatingly. DOWN.—2, Relic; 3, Flatten; 4, Steam yacht; 5, Inch; 6, Nairobi; 7, Last trump; 8, Archer; 9, Entree; 14, Flamboyant; 16, Patronage; 17, Employ; 18, Nastier; 19, Lantern; 20, Easter; 23, Growl; 24, Talc.

The winner of Crossword No. 1392 is

Colonel P. Layard,
Corton Denham House,
near Sherborne,
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THE ESTATE MARKET

GRASPING THE NETTLE

LAST week, when discussing Labour's plans for housing, as outlined at their Party conference, I mentioned that the executive had agreed to a resolution demanding that the ownership of all rent-controlled houses, believed to number between 5,000,000 and 6,500,000, should be vested in local authorities, the take-over to be effective from January 1 of this year as an insurance against possible abolition of rent control by the present Government. It is now clear that the policy was taken out just in time, for when the Conservatives came to hold their conference, Mr. Sandys, the Minister of Housing and Local Government, stated the Government's firm intention of doing away with all rent controls and added that proposals to implement this policy were to be laid before Parliament.

BY EASY STAGES

ALTHOUGH Mr. Sandys did not divulge precisely how the Government intend to remove the controls governing rents, he made it clear that there was to be no sudden opening of the dams. Instead, the task is to be tackled in three easy stages. First, the freeing of approximately five million owner-occupied houses—so that the owners will no longer be discouraged from letting; second, the freeing of houses already let, as and when they become vacant; and, third, the decontrol of a "slice" of higher valued houses. But he added that the fact that a larger number of houses would have to wait their turn did not mean that their rents would be left just as they were. On the contrary, although security of tenure would be preserved for tenants, new ceilings of rent would have to be fixed, and "these," he said, "should bear some reasonable relation to current values and maintenance costs."

CART BEFORE HORSE?

THE arguments in favour of the abolition of rent control are so formidable and have been propounded so often that many people, apart from landlords, have found it difficult to understand why no action has been taken before now. For example, it is an established fact that since 1939, when the rents of nearly 10 million houses were pegged as a precautionary measure against war-time profiteering by landlords, the costs of repairs and maintenance have risen by at least 300 per cent., and the result has been that tens of thousands of houses have fallen into a state of bad disrepair because their owners simply could not afford the money to keep them in decent order. Indeed, until the recommendations of the Girdwood Committee were adopted in 1953, and found expression in the Housing and Repairs Act of the following year, there were grounds for believing that the wastage of older houses fell not far short of the total of new dwellings built as a result of the Government's much-vaunted housing programme. And so far as the uninitiated were concerned, there were good grounds for arguing that successive Governments, first Labour, and then Conservative, had been putting the cart before the horse when they stated that before considering a revision of the Rent Acts, it was necessary to prove that they could build new houses in large quantities. Rather did it seem to the majority of people that a lifting of rent controls and an active building programme were complementary to each other, and those who subscribe to this belief will congratulate Mr. Sandys on grasping the nettle.

POLITICAL DYNAMITE

IF, as I have implied, the concensus of opinion has been for a long time in favour of a revision of the Rent Restrictions Acts, why is it that action has been delayed until the other day? After all, in June, 1949, Mr. Aneurin Bevan pledged the Socialist Government of the time to a review of the Acts in the next Parliamentary session, and in 1952 Mr. Harold Macmillan gave a similar pledge on behalf of a Conservative Government, though it is true that he did not bind himself to dates. Nevertheless, the answer is, I think, that until Mr. Sandys decided to take action, no responsible Minister has been able to overcome the conviction, or to prevail upon his colleagues to overcome the conviction, that to meddle with rent restriction is political dynamite. In fact, Mr. Macmillan as good as admitted the fact at the Conservative Party conference in 1953, when he observed that it was difficult to see how the Government's promise to tackle the repair, maintenance and conversion of old houses and to make a new start on the work of slum clearance could be carried out effectively until property owners were allowed to charge economic rents, and observed, almost in the same breath: "We shall have to do things which will often be difficult to explain and easy to misrepresent."

The other day Mr. Sandys made it clear that he expected criticism when he said: "The Socialists are sure to misrepresent our motives, but that will not deter us from an act of justice and commonsense which is long overdue." And, provided that the "safeguards to protect tenants from unduly abrupt rises in rents" which he promised are to be incorporated in the Bill to be laid before Parliament are adequate, it is difficult to see how anyone can complain.

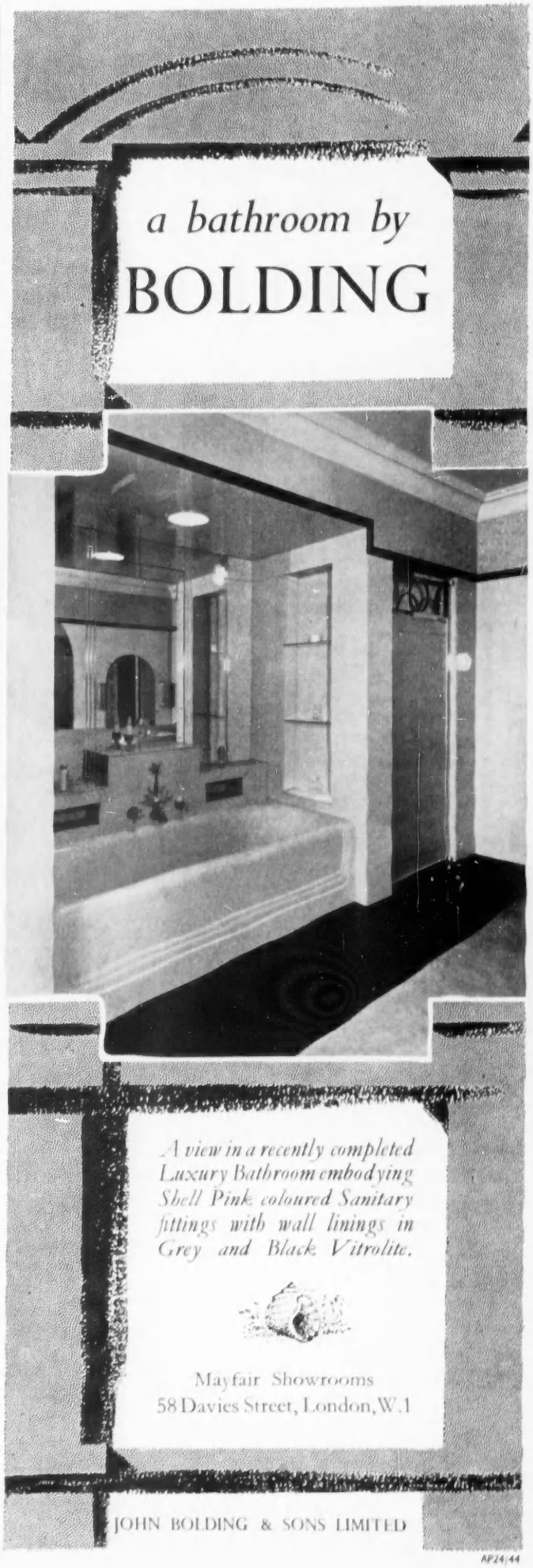
£50,000 FOR SHUTE ESTATE

A SALE that had attracted a good deal of advance publicity took place the other day when Messrs. Strutt and Parker, Lofts and Warner auctioned the Shute estate, Devon, on behalf of Sir John Carew Pole, Bt., whose family had held it for six centuries. The property covers rather more than 1,100 acres and has a rent roll of £2,408 a year. It includes five farms, one with possession in March of next year; Shute House, which is let to a girls' school; a considerable acreage of woodland; several cottages and parcels of accommodation land; and fishing rights in the River Axe and Umborne Brook. It was sold, with the exception of the deer park, which is preserved by restrictive covenant, and Shute Barton House, which has been restored with the help of the Ministry of Works and the National Trust, for £50,000 to Broadland Properties.

NOVELIST SELLS HOME

MR. EVELYN WAUGH, the well-known novelist, has sold Piers Court, his home near Stinchcombe, Gloucestershire, where he has lived for nearly 20 years. The house stands on the site of a mediæval manor of the same name which was burnt by Prince Rupert on his march from Cirencester to Berkeley during the Civil War. The existing house dates from the middle of the 18th century and has an imposing façade embellished with delicate pilasters and a pediment. It stands in 41 acres, including a small home farm with modern T.T. attested buildings and an electric milking parlour, and was sold to a private buyer by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley.

PROCURATOR.



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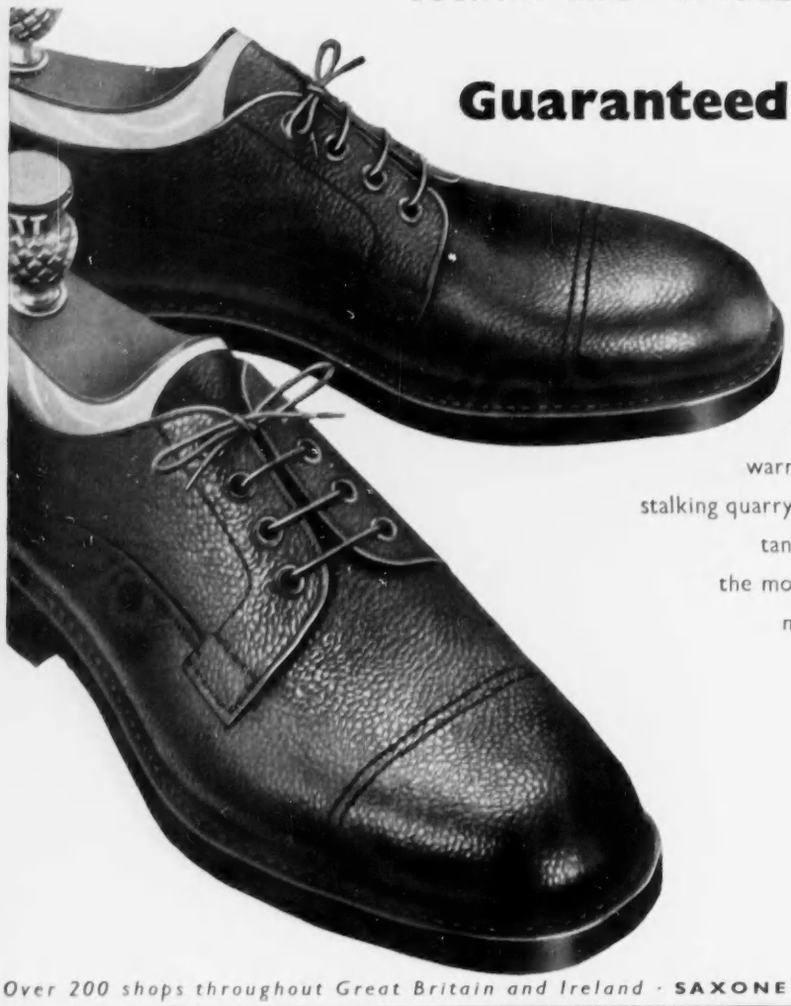

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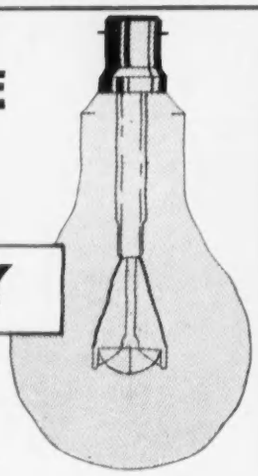

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FARMING NOTES

BARLEY SELLS WELL

DESPITE the weathered condition and discoloration of much of this year's barley, the trade is quite good, and merchants are offering £23 15s. a ton at the farm for ordinary feed barley that has been dried to 16 per cent. moisture. For later deliveries £24 a ton can be got. This is a better level of prices than that at the end of the 1955 harvest, when all the barley was in first-class order and the samples which farmers had to offer were much more attractive. However, the higher cost of ocean freights and less pressure to sell barley coming from abroad are keeping the market firmer. The current market price is, of course, still below the standard price guaranteed by the Government, and there will be some acreage payment due to growers, whether they sell their barley or whether they keep it at home for feeding to pigs. The standard price fixed at this year's review is £26 3s. 4d. a ton. Originally it was to be £26 and then there was a special review which added the odd 3s. 4d. The guaranteed payment, as farmers know, is made on an acreage basis, so that all growers benefit whether or not they sell barley. Barley growing should still be reasonably profitable next year, as the standard price goes up to £26 10s. a ton for barley harvested in 1957. In contrast the standard price for wheat, which is £30 a ton for the 1956 harvest, drops to £28 5s. a ton for the 1957 harvest. The 1957 harvest guarantee for oats is £26 5s. a ton.

Better Beef Prices

WE should be emerging by now from the autumn trough of beef prices, when extra numbers of fat cattle are marketed at the end of the grazing season; there is some indication in market prices that this is so. No one will welcome this more than the Minister of Agriculture, whose departmental calculations have gone awry since the early summer. To maintain even the minimum return to producers the Minister has had to indent on the Treasury for a deficiency payment that has lately run to as much as 24s. 6d. a live cwt., which amounts to £12 5s. on a 10-cwt. beast. Extra supplies of chilled beef from Argentina have coincided with the steadily rising output of fat cattle at home and, with the total supplies on the market reaching fully the pre-war level (taking into account the increased population), the wholesale market for all beef has been easier than anyone expected.

Subsidy Adjustment

SOME back payment of subsidy will now be made to farmers who have had to take a low total return for their fat cattle in the past six months. We all expected that the average return for the year would be 151s. a live cwt.; this was the figure determined as the standard at the price review. In practice the rolling average calculation, of ill-fame, has never caught up with the drooping market values and, failing a subsidy adjustment of some kind now, there would be a deficit of at least £12 million on the fat cattle account at the end of the price year, which is March 31 next. This would be difficult to explain away satisfactorily. Certainly farmers are not to be blamed for continuing to produce more beef cattle: this is what they were asked to do. Happily, lamb prices have kept much steadier, and no one can complain about the returns this summer and autumn.

Marketing Fatstock

IN line with the views held by many supporters, the Fatstock Marketing Corporation is inviting farmers to put up some capital to develop the business of the Corporation. This organisation was started by the N.F.U. to provide some central organisation through which farmers could market their fat pigs, cattle and sheep when the Ministry went out of the meat business in July, 1954, on de-rationing. The Corporation asks its members to invest at par in an issue of £500,000 unsecured loan notes, carrying interest at a minimum rate of 5½ per cent. per annum and a maximum rate of 10 per cent. Writing to farmers, Mr. Owen R. Guard, the chairman, says that the Corporation plans the provision of additional slaughter-houses of modern design, which will allow "maximum operational efficiency" and the development of the by-products industry, which we have not yet done much about in this country, compared with America, Australia and New Zealand. The Board also wants to provide temperature-controlled meat vehicles to take carcasses from the abattoirs to the depots in the best possible conditions; the establishment of wholesale meat and service depots in the large consuming areas is planned. Only farmers who are members of the Corporation are eligible to invest in these loan notes. The response will be a test of the confidence which producers of fatstock have in their organisation.

Grain Storage

ANOTHER farmers' enterprise which has lately taken the initiative in development is the Southern Counties' Agricultural Trading Society. This was the only farmers' trading society to take up one of the Government grain silos when they were offered on lease just before the beginning of harvest. This Society now operates for the benefit of its members the silo at Andover, which has a total storage capacity of 5,000 tons. How welcome this initiative was to the members may be judged by the fact that two-thirds of the capacity was booked by members straight away by July 31. After the experience of this harvest the Minister will no doubt be pressed to reverse his decision on the future of the silos, and will keep available for the drying and storage of home-grown grain all those which were formerly operated by Re-Commissioned Mills. Those which have been taken over by farmers or merchants on lease will presumably be kept open anyway.

Poor Profit-earning

SOME small dairy farmers and some upland farmers with no fell grazing rights would have been better off financially if they could have taken hired employment on farms and invested their capital in safe industrial shares. This is the finding of Mr. D. M. Carpenter, the Senior Agricultural Economist at King's College, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who has made a survey of farming results in the northern counties of England in the year 1954-55. To show how much better off some farmers would have been the report brings out the fact that before making charges for manual work or capital, 16 of the 87 farms in four groups made losses or profits of less than £100. A few did much better. The best made £3,700 profit. But generally 1954-55 was a bad year for them. Average farm profits varied from a low of £470 for upland farms without fell rights to a high of £1,880 for livestock feeding and crop selling farms. Yet these upland farmers and many others continue in the business. They find part of their reward in the satisfaction derived from an independent life. Obviously cash earnings are not the sole consideration with them.

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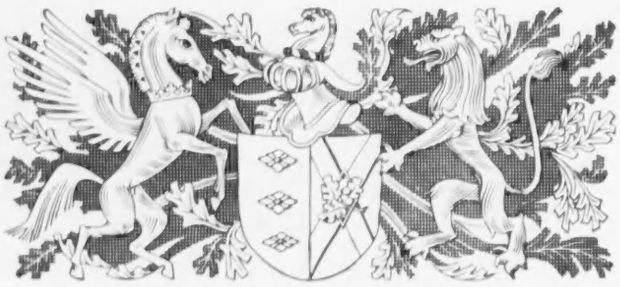

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NEW BOOKS

A BORN ESCAPER

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

ALTHOUGH, during the last war, a number of German prisoners escaped from camps in this country, all were rounded up. None got out of the island. But there was a fair amount of escaping from Canada, to which some of the German prisoners were sent, into the United States. Franz von Werra, a pilot of the German Air Force, shot down in Kent during the Battle of Britain, belonged to those who may be called born escapers. There are men who accept captivity calmly and use it profitably. But not men of the von Werra type. A good and pertinacious escaper is not necessarily an admirable person, though one admires the qualities that come into play while the escape is being planned and executed and while the hunt is on. Von Werra, for example, was a braggart and a liar. He had a quality most useful to his purpose: what is called "an engaging personality." It would have helped him to success as a commercial traveller or demagogue.

Parts of his story are well documented, and Mr. Kendal Burt and Mr. James Leasor, who tell it, have been industrious in hunting down people who came in contact with von Werra, and in searching out documents that deal with his movements in England, Canada, America and Germany. For other parts of the story we have only his own word, and that is about as reliable as a cheap wrist-watch. The book is published jointly by Collins and Michael Joseph, under the title, *The One That Got Away* (16s.). It is worth reading because it gives the German point of view. Escape books from our point of view have surely now been rather overplayed.

BRITISH QUESTIONERS

An important thing which the authors keep constantly before us is von Werra's value to German Intelligence. No one was getting back to tell the Germans many things that they wanted to know. When a man falls into the hands of enemy Intelligence he is given a pretty thorough going-over before he is sent to a prisoner-of-war camp. How is he treated? What sort of questions is he asked? What are the traps to be avoided? The Germans very much wanted to know the answers to these questions, and that explains their solicitude about von Werra's well-being once he had made contact with the German authorities in America. "As soon as von Werra reached New York the Germany Military Attaché instructed him to write a preliminary report on his experiences, with special reference to procedure at British Air Interrogation Centres. This report was immediately communicated in code to Luftwaffe Headquarters in Berlin. The Intelligence and Operations Branches were so impressed by it that extracts and instructions aimed at tightening up aircrew security were teletyped to all operational units of the Luftwaffe. The effect was soon felt by British Air Intelligence. German aircrew captured after von Werra's report and the issue of new instructions based on it were extremely security-minded." A book called *How to Behave if Taken Prisoner*, based on von Werra's experiences, was issued to all flying men.

When the hero was flown back to Germany, Hitler, Goebbels and Goering personally interviewed him. He was fair-minded to the English. He spoke well of the conditions in English camps, and is said to have suggested improvements in the lot of English prisoners in Germany. His autobiography was written by a "ghost," and, though it contains a lot of brag, "its tone throughout," say the authors, "is surprisingly friendly and appreciative of the British. . . . Its fairness was one of the reasons why the propaganda ministry banned its publication."

When Germany invaded Russia, von Werra flew for a time on the Russian front and was then moved to the coast of Holland. He had just married. In October of 1941, while he was flying off the Dutch coast, his aeroplane dropped into the sea and he was drowned. A month later his death in action was announced, "in Russia, according to some newspapers, leading his *Gruppe* in attack after attack until he met a hero's death." However, a court of enquiry reported that his death was "due to engine failure and the pilot's carelessness."

MASTER OF BLUFF

So throughout the book there is an underlying political and propaganda aspect, while the surface is mainly action, to be here and there discounted because of von Werra's skill as a liar. His first escape, from a camp in the Lake District, was elementary, and he was soon nabbed. The second, from a camp in the Midlands, was by the time-honoured tunnel method. What was remarkable was his audacity once he was out. He bluffed a railway booking clerk, the police and the staff of an aerodrome, and was sitting in the cockpit of a Hurricane, with a trolley accumulator alongside charging the batteries, when he was "rumbled."

After that he made the journey to Canada, and while travelling from the coast to the camp in the interior, he escaped through a window of the train, walked to the St. Lawrence

THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY
By Kendal Burt and James Leasor
(Collins and Michael Joseph, 16s.)

T'OTHER MISS AUSTEN. ***By Kathleen Freeman***
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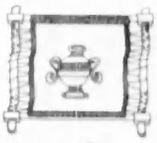

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REVIEWS by HOWARD SPRING—*continued*

river, and crossed it into the United States.

How he could impress people may be gathered from what the authors were told by one who met him during the aerodrome affair. "What with his delightful personality and the twinkle in his eyes, it was not difficult to realise afterwards how he had carried through his escapade. A lot of us, sporty types, were rather sorry he did not make it!" Which is, perhaps, going a bit far, even for a sporty type.

IN SEARCH OF JANE AUSTEN

The jacket which Mr. Lynton Lamb has drawn for *T'Other Miss Austen*, by Kathleen Freeman (Macdonald, 16s.) shows us a woman sitting on a chair with her hands among some papers on a writing-table. There is nothing else in the room. Even the window is uncurtained. We do not see the woman's face. The side view that we are given should show us a profile, but she has turned her face towards the farther wall, and so eyes, nose, mouth, chin are hidden. Presumably it is a sketch of Jane, "T'other Miss Austen," as she called herself—"Pray give t'other Miss Austen's compliments to Edward Bridges,"—but it is the most anonymous sketch ever drawn. We can use our own fancy in furnishing the room. We can make our own guess about how the face would look if it turned towards us on the slender pivot of the neck.

Thus, whether by accident or design, Mr. Lamb sets the tone for Dr. Freeman's book, which is a search for Jane, whom she considers to be insufficiently known. Not that there hasn't been writing enough about her, for and against. But the true Jane is not to be found there. "We shall find our own Jane, the real Jane, the *non pareil*, only in her own words, not in the novels, except here and there—true novelists are too clever to give themselves away in direct revelation—but in the letters." These letters, collected and edited by Dr. R. W. Chapman, are the solid road along which Dr. Freeman advances to the discovery of Jane; though necessarily she does not confine herself to them. When she calls Jane the *non pareil*, she means exactly that. For her, there has never been anyone like Miss Austen, and probably never will be. Therefore, her mind is furnished not only with the letters but with everything that has ever been written about Jane or by her. It is an almost worshipful approach. There was a noisy young relative of Jane's who one day committed the desecration of rummaging through her writing-desk. Dr. Freeman is incapable of that, as I hope most of us would be. Her method is to listen when Jane *chooses* to speak, whether through the letters or any other-how, and out of all these scattered words to build up a woman whose face at last turns towards us.

DEVASTATING FRANKNESS

What shall we see in that face? For myself, armed with this book and with a good deal of personal pondering about Jane, I should expect to see complete honesty. I can't think of an occasion when Jane Austen pretended. Her discretion and good breeding suggested times when she should say nothing, and in the face I should expect to see a humorous apprehension of what she *might* say, if she chose, on an occasion like that. But when she did speak it was with a frankness that could be devastating despite, or because of, the brief perfection of the words. "Miss Langley is like any other short girl with a broad nose and wide mouth, fashionable dress and exposed bosom." "He is a very young man, just entered of Oxford, wears spectacles, and has heard that *Evelina* was written by Dr. Johnson."

The book is arranged in chapters exhibiting Jane in various characters—"Jane Austen as a Daughter," as a sister, as niece and aunt, as sister-in-law, and so forth. Jane's extensive family spent much time in the ever wider begetting of more and more children, and so in those capacities she had great experience. She is frank about them all, not with the spiteful frankness of the person who says, "I always say what's in my mind" before loosing a few poisoned arrows, but with the frankness of one to whom, speaking only when it is necessary to speak, honesty is as natural as breathing. Altogether, Dr. Freeman is successful in animating the face; and I wish some one would do the same for that other parson's daughter, Emily, "T'other Miss Brontë."

OTHER PEOPLE'S DINNERS

Fine Bouche, a history of the restaurant in France, by Pierre Andrieu, translated by Arthur L. Hayward (Cassell, 31s. 6d.) is "a modest monument raised to all those conscientious and inspired craftsmen of the Kitchen and Table, who, throughout the centuries, have contributed so magnificently to the glory and renown of France."

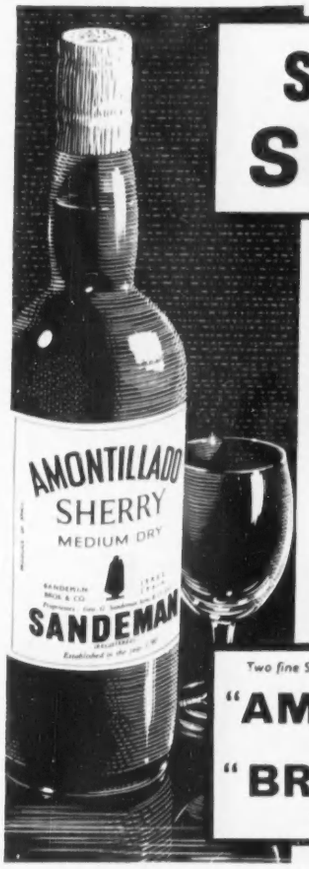
You can wallow here to your heart's content in other people's dinners, eaten in Paris and the provinces. We are shown princes, poets, artists and politicians tucking in and honest bourgeois not doing themselves so badly. "On the menu was a dish that set all Paris talking—*Canard aux Perles*. 'Picture to yourselves,' says Roger de Beauvoir, 'a roast duck enriched with a stuffing of lobster sauce, Périgord truffles and mushrooms; served up with a string of pearls wound round it from neck to tail. A truly original effect!'"

We go through page after page of it to a sad ending. Nowadays young people are too often content with steak and chips and a pot of jam, while "dieticians and nutritians busy themselves in turning a well-balanced and tasty menu into a chemico-biological equation . . . Do the eternal verities veer like weather cocks?"

No, a thousand times no, I say. May the day never dawn when my duck is adorned with cheap imitation jewels or presented like a coster shimmering in pearly buttons. I join my voice to M. Andrieu's: "Restaurateurs and Chefs, take no part in this gastronomic treason!"

GARDENER'S VERSES

REGINALD ARKELL'S *Collected Green Fingers* (Herbert Jenkins, 12s. 6d.) is the author's own selection from his four books of light gardening verse. Mr. Arkell writes of the pleasures and disappointments of gardening, of weeding and handling hoses, of wireworm and rose-growing, of the gardener's opinions of the Master and the Missus. The gardener who suffers from other people's talk about their gardens or is bewildered by Latin names will find much sympathy. There are many illustrations by Eugene Hastain and Edgar Norfield.



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International FASHIONS

NEVER before has the scope of the fashion displays been so wide. In the last few weeks there have been clothes on show in London from many European countries and America—a complete model collection from Italy, ski-clothes from Switzerland and Scandinavia, the latest French and Italian designs interpreted by the wholesalers in the stores and two collections by America's wholesalers.

At the Debenham and Freebody show designs were shown from six cities. Two outstandingly beautiful evening dresses were both short and wide—first a cerise satin from Jean Dessés that has a simple fitted bodice with shoulder straps and slight fullness gathered over the hips and waist and held by two bows at the back and second a handkerchief linen by Sybil Connolly, of Dublin. In a purplish grey this latter dress was shirred all over by hand horizontally and had a short-sleeved bolero to cover the bare décolletage. This treatment makes the fabric absolutely uncrushable, while the fine shirring gives a wonderful depth and creates an interesting surface. A white and gold brocade dress, designed in Debenham's workrooms, was also short, but a narrow dress with a line of mink bordering the low oval neckline was long. It was shown under a long coat of wild mink from Paris that had a slit hemline that could be zipped up. When it was unzipped intriguing glimpses of the pale brocade dress were disclosed. A long dinner dress by Myricae, of Rome, might have stepped from a Renaissance portrait. In black velvet, it flowed from the waist to a wide hemline and had a low oval neckline slipping off the shoulders and short black velvet sleeves. Into these velvet sleeves full under-sleeves of white pleated chiffon were inserted.

Two fur pieces from Jeanne Lanvin showed original treatment—a snug little leopard bolero with a minute fitted basque, three-quarter sleeves and a roll collar; and a black Persian lamb cape that fell into a deep point below the waist in front and was shorter and straight across at the back. A black broadtail coat of Pierre Balmain with wide sleeves gathered into a dropped shoulder yoke was lined with white taffeta, pleated at the hem, and this outfit was worn with the most luxurious-looking white fox cap. From Germany there were winter coats in pile woollens in deep dim olive greens and amethyst; from Zurich smart ski jackets in checked proofed gingham; from Milan smooth sleek knitted suits; from Antonelli, of Rome, gay wide-skirted cocktail dresses in stiff silk always with interest at the back, either as pleated tulle underskirts, or embroidered panels.

Simonetta and Fabiani, of Rome, brought their entire collections to London. Here it was the coats that were of outstanding design, though the evening dresses in lush colours and gleaming silks were lovely also. The prevailing coat silhouette, bound to affect styles here, was a stiff-looking pyramid of velours with narrow shoulders and gores widening to the hem and the stiffening inserted between the velours and the silk lining. In these coats seams ran in unexpected places so that deep yokes at the back were curved and pointed and cut in one with the sleeves, sometimes with a shallow yoke in the front as well. Some had wide collars, others none, and in the blonde tones they were particularly elegant. Here again deep muted purples were used; this colour recurs again and again among the coats.

Dior's coat is soft and wide and compressed by unpressed pleats into the neck-bands so that it assumes the look of a cape; it is proving a great success. His short caped jacket, tying across under the bust, is another style-setter; so, of course, is the long-skirted suit in wool, only ten inches off the ground and teamed with the shortest possible of jackets. Long daytime capes in tweed need a great deal of wearing and are the choice of the few, but they look very new.

A collection of Jacques Heim clothes designed for young girls is being shown at

(*Right*) Lamé jersey dinner dress in a deep olive green shade falls in fluid folds in front from a high waist and is draped to the back (Neil Roger at Fortnum and Mason)

A girlish coiffure is brushed backwards from the forehead and the hair falls in soft tendrils on the temples and cheeks (Antoine). (*Right*) A sleek coiffure in which a loosely coiled chignon is held by large pins and a net (Steiner)

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Harrods; also a series of Claude Rivière designs for the woman of forty and over. The Heim collection includes a delightful party dress in matt silk that has a gored skirt supported by a beautifully-made foundation and bootlace bows disposed each side of the oval neckline. A smoke grey tweed suit looks very young with a jaunty fitted jacket, very short and with a double-breasted military style fastening. Over this goes a covering cape of the cloth with slits for the arms, and the skirt is narrow. Some simple black cocktail dresses also managed to look both young and sophisticated, relying on their cut and fabric for their distinction.

IN the Claude Rivière collection was an especially elegant cocktail dress in biscuit-coloured silk. This was mounted on a foundation and had a moderately wide hemline and three-quarter sleeves, and gathers were concentrated in front and held under the bustline with a narrow belt.

In the Jacqmar Boutique and among their international collection many of the stars of this winter's fashions can be discovered. There are simple elegant coats in blonde doeskin cloth and vivid reds with soft wide cape collars, gay separates

A narrow suit in velours, camel-colour and chocolate brown, with a double-breasted jacket and bracelet-length sleeves (Crayson)

(*Left*) Sybil Connolly makes a wide skirt from band-woven black-and-white Irish tweed with V-shaped sections over the hips. She lines it with lemon taffeta matching the wide mohair stole (Jacqmar Boutique)

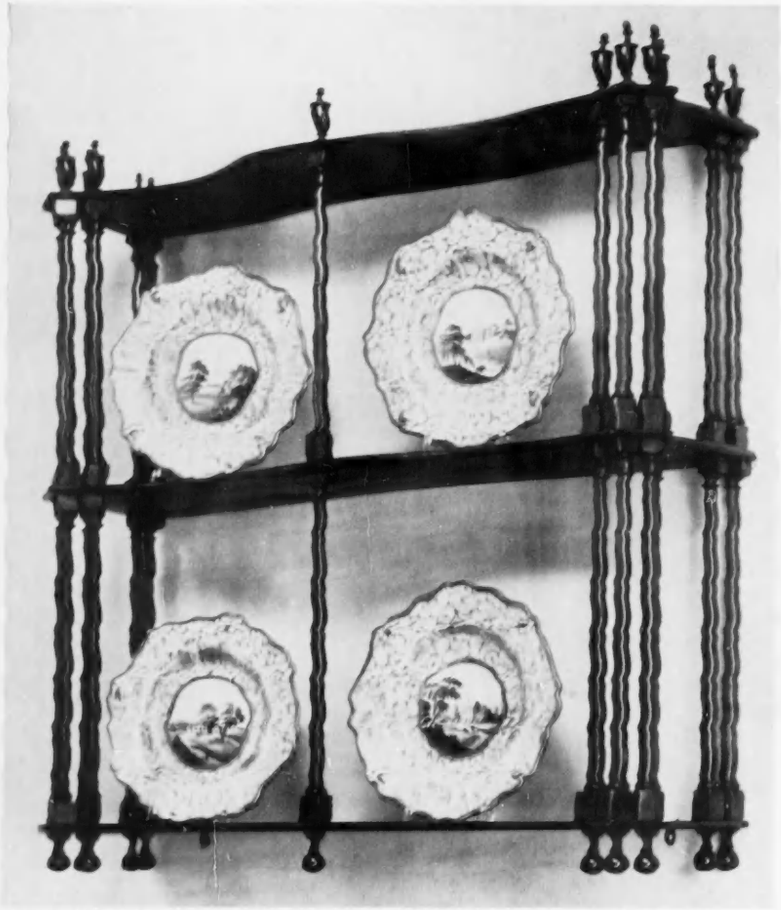
from Dublin and Italy and excellent tailor-made dresses, suits and coats that have been designed by Victor Stiebel and Digby Morton. Here detail is understated and the outline kept narrow and uncluttered, the cut being omnipotent. The new lines on a tailor-made are achieved by dropping the shoulder seams, widening the armholes and necklines, lengthening skirts and shortening jackets. Pleats are short and left unpressed. All this brings about the blurring of the silhouette, which is the big point of this winter's fashion story.

At a display of silks woven with gold, ivory with gold was easily the most popular blend, and the fabrics with the glitter applied with discretion were easily the smartest. A short evening dress of Jacques Fath in one of these had a spectacular covering coat in a stiff brocade, and the dramatic cape collar of the coat was wide enough to be lifted to form a winged coif. John Cavanagh showed a long evening dress in the grand manner with a billowing back and a slender moulded front, and this moved beautifully. Digby Morton's short evening dress in white and gold varied the strapless décolletage by interlacing folded scarves on the top of the bodice; over the hips on either side he introduced an effective touch of shell pink as a deep swathed band of silk.

The designs of two more American wholesalers are to be manufactured in England, Clair McCardell's by Dorville and Starlet's cottons by Jennifer Lee. The former likes the soft shirtwaister type of dress in pale wool, lavender, cyclamen or ivory, and cinches the waist with a deep polished leather belt that dips in the centre back above a deep pleat in the skirt. These simple dresses are very kind to the figure and ideal for a winter holiday. A camel-coloured suit in a smooth taut wool is charming with a tubular skirt and a straight collarless jacket. The cotton dresses are expensive and crisp-looking, as one expects from America. Many are sleeveless with square necklines and wide skirts, but the smartest of all in the display had three-quarter sleeves and a high neckline with a Peter Pan collar. This was a navy and white cotton of a close pattern with a deep border for the hem. A white and gilt cotton would make a pretty cocktail frock for a girl in the summer.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

(*Left*) A three-yard evening stole in amber poult is fringed and very wide (Jacqmar). The rhinestone and silver necklace is completely flexible so that the clusters can be disposed at various angles on a décolletage (Paris House)



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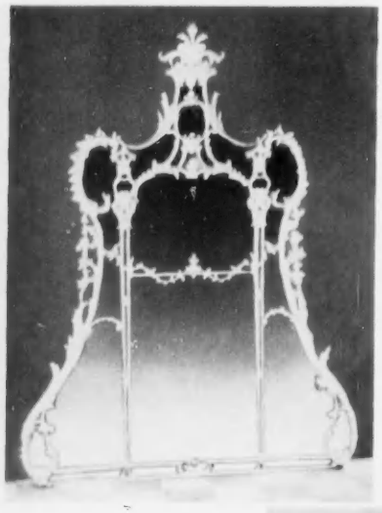

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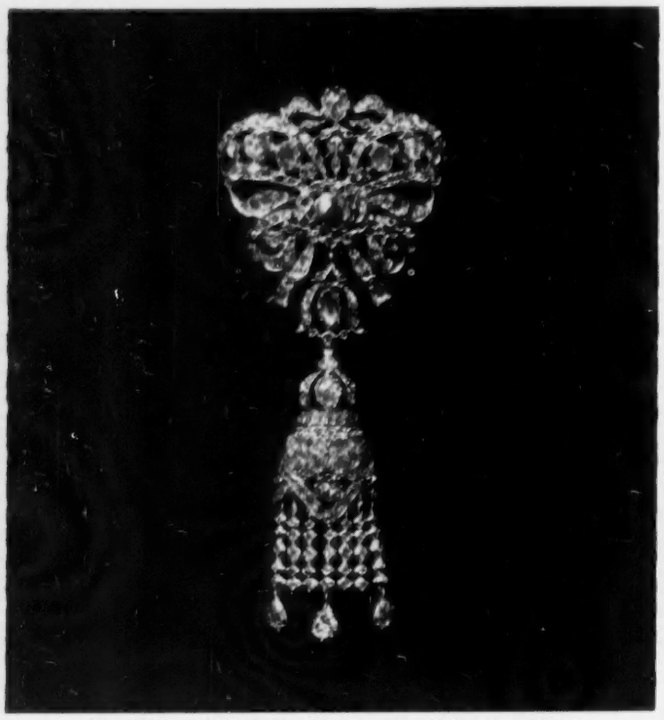

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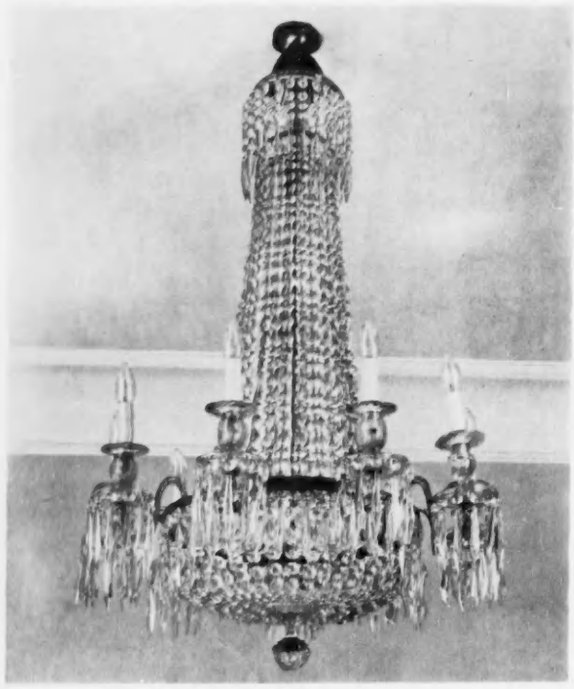

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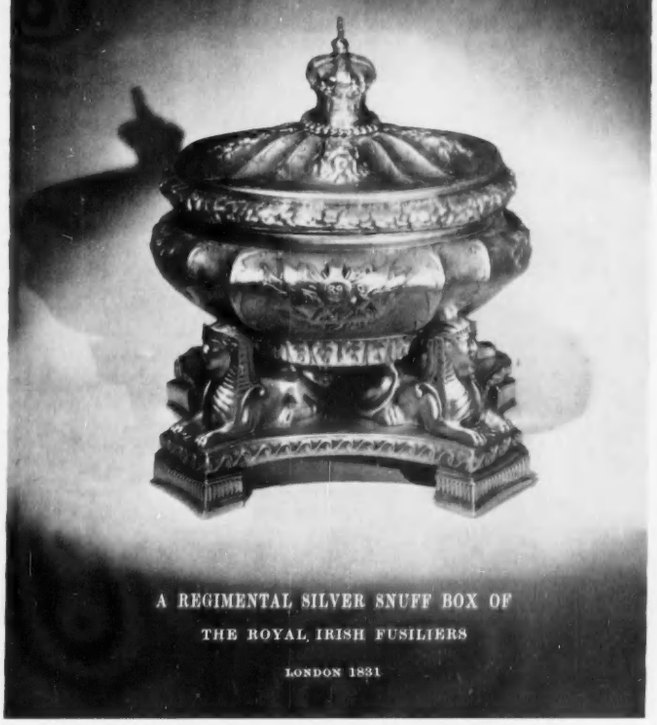

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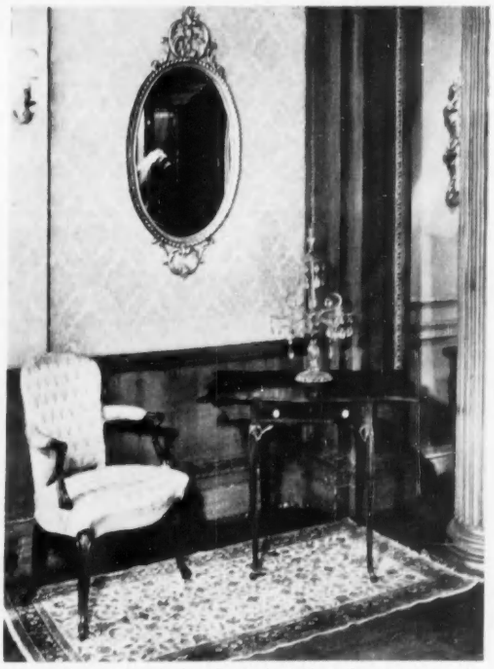

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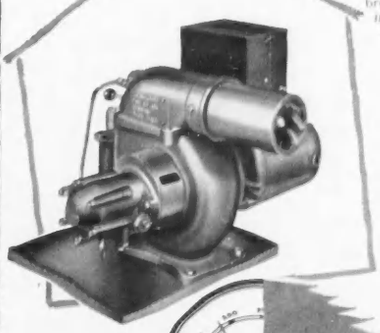

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